



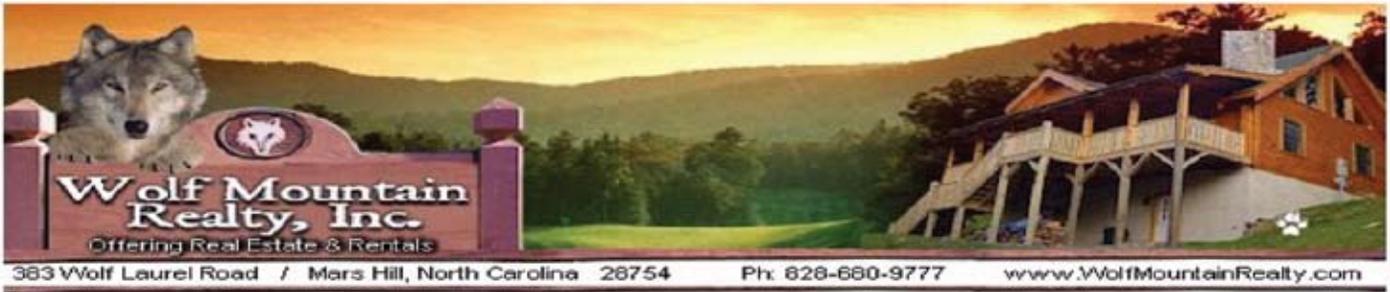
AND A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL!

There was at least one little sticky faced girl, happily munching cotton candy, who declared loudly, "This is the best Fourth of July EVER!!" Her height belied her having previously experienced many such celebrations before this one, but her sentiments were echoed by many, far taller than she! "The Crew" was playing up a storm; State Street BBQ was dishing up some good stuff. There was free cotton candy and popcorn for little and big people, too; and the kids were lined up for the usual climbing and bouncing concessions. Then at dark the evening was topped off by an 18 minute Wowee-Zowee professional fireworks show. It was an extraordinary Fourth of July celebration, attended by 562 people (surpassing last year's 499), and believe it or not, there was room for a hundred or two more!

Three sponsors, Suburban Propane, Frontier Communications, and Blossman Propane made the fireworks display more affordable with their combined donations of \$1400. Frontier and Suburban were here for the event, getting better acquainted with their clients. They said that they had fun, too. Many residents pitched in also, to the tune of over \$1000 and more dollars are still coming in. THANK YOU, FRIENDS!

The Amenities Committee is already hard at work, making plans for 2013. The Fourth in the Village is definitely a not to be missed occasion for everyone on the mountain. 2013 will be even bigger and better!





363 Wolf Laurel Road / Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754 Ph: 828-680-9777 www.WolfMountainRealty.com



660 Wonderly Lane-New Listing- Stunning log home on the golf course, spacious 4 Bdr's, 2 Baths, loft area, beautiful landscaped 1.04 acre, 3300sqft, eat in kitchen w/ fplc, mostly furnished, detached shop/carport. Too many extras to list, see virtual tour on our website. **MLS#522509 \$559,000**



654 McKinney Gap Rd- Handyman special in great location, just reduced. On paved road with winter views and high elevation, 2 Bdr's, 3 Baths, stone fplc, new wood floors in great room/dining area, 1080sqft, and unfinished 970sqft, .55 acre. **MLS#490854 \$98,500**



296 Spring Valley-New Listing- Adorable cottage that offers one level living with easily maintained 1004sqft, 2 Bdr's, 1.5 Baths, open floor plan, nicely landscaped .63 acre, close to slopes and amenities, many updates. **MLS#520085 \$139,900**



236 El Miner Court-Well maintained mountain chalet w/great views, wormy chestnut paneling and cathedral ceilings in great room, master on main, garage, 2 decks to enjoy cool summers, cul-de-sac privacy, close to golf course. **MLS#412733 \$198,500**



217 Lookout Drive-EXTREME VIEWS!! From this well maintained mountain home with high elevation, 3 Bdr's, 3 Baths, large deck, fplc, garage, mostly furnished. Walk to country club. **MLS#470376 \$359,000**



199 Overlook Drive-Stunning views from this immaculate spacious 3 master suites w/loft area, powder room on main level, located in the Overlook Village area, all paved frontage, 2 stone fplc, 2 huge decks, garage on main level. **MUST SEE!! MLS#510262 \$499,000**



3340 El Miner Drive-Extreme quality for this golf course log home w/mtn views from 2 decks, roomy 3078sqft, 3 Bdr's, 3.5 Baths, master on main, impressive stone fplc in great room, .81 acre, paved driveway, stone fplc in family room, furnished, garage, built 2006. **MLS#515854 \$495,000**



272 Uankite Lane-Tremendous long range views with a waterfall and stream, this antique log offers a rare location with water & views. Private 2.7 acres, two decks, 3 Bdr's, 2.5 Baths, tons of windows, stone fplc that is the focal point of the great room, workshop/garage. **MLS#514944 \$399,000**



2299 El Miner Drive-Mtn views from this cypress custom built cabin, all paved access with dble garage, 3 Bdr's., 3 Baths, gas heat, central A/C, open floor plan, loft area, 2 decks, bonus room on lower level, all wood and tile floors. **MLS#519633 \$469,000**



President's Message

By John Beneke

By the time you read this, we will have had our Annual Meeting, elected new officers, and begun to work on next year's agenda and projects. Your new president will be asking for your support and that you volunteer to assist in guiding the WLPOA. As the only regularly elected organization in Wolf Laurel, your involvement in our affairs is critical to our continued success.

Let me say that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your president for the past three years. When I assumed the presidency in July 2009, the WLPOA was essentially a social organization. Now in 2012 we are a busy corporate entity, a BUSINESS, with real property, physical, and fiscal assets. Happily, our liabilities are offset substantially by those assets. There will always be challenges, as there are in any undertaking of this size. But the board has shown that with your commitment

we are up to these challenges.

Each of the board members, past and present, have given his or her very best to ensure that the WLPOA continues to be a stable and respected organization within Wolf Laurel. It has been a rewarding experience to work with each of them. The road has not always been smooth; board members have not agreed on every issue, nor have you, our members, always agreed with our decisions. But we have worked together to move forward with the best interests of the membership in our hearts and foremost in our actions. This cooperation is visible in our monthly meetings, which are open to all our membership. At large attendance at these meetings continues to increase to the great satisfaction of the board, who look to you for feedback.

Thanks to the efforts of our staff, led by Cindy Tucker and Hassiekay Honeycutt,

and many, many volunteers, we are experiencing a very successful year. We had the largest 4th of July Celebration and Kids Camp attendance to date. Many said they were also the "best ever." The Village has never looked more beautiful, and there are many activities, including a few new ones such as Ladies Day Out, Pickle Ball, the Walking Club, to whet the appetites of Amenities members. We continue to enroll new Amenities members, both trial and regular. As new residents move to the mountain and as current residents realize what fun they are missing, our numbers will continue to grow.

We have every reason to be encouraged as to where we are and where we are headed for our future. We can take great pride in the accomplishments of the last three years. Lets continue to "Make It Happen."

Village Wolf Cub Kid's Camp

By Cindy Tucker

Rain or shine, our Village Wolf Cub Kid's Camp is always a blast. This year, the weather was much less than perfect, but with our wonderful instructors and a fabulous group of 27 kids (our second biggest camp since the Amenities Program began), we had one of the best camps ever! The kids are always eager to start their day with us by howling, then taking a walk to feed the trout in the Village Trout Pond and also up the hill in the Observation Pond. Then, since this just a good



ol' fashioned camp, we give the kids choices for a portion of each day so they can pick their favorite activity – swimming, sports (kick ball, football, basketball, 4 square, etc.) or crafts.

Our cool crafts vary each day. We have a beading station, a play dough station (who doesn't like play dough?), coloring, plenty of paper for paper airplanes – which were flying all over the pavilion. Special craft activities included tie dyeing t-shirts and really cool felting projects. We also provided special craft activities for our 'themed' days – pirate day, science day, and wildlife day. Pirate day included an especially fun activity – a water balloon fight! It was so much fun and the kids didn't expect our instructors overseeing the event to drench them all with their buckets of water after all the balloons were tossed at the opposing teams' fort. Science day is a special time with Mark Tucker



– a 7th grade science teacher. He brings Science Olympiad events to the camp such as bottle rockets and an egg drop competition. On Wildlife day, we brought in a naturalist, Carlton Burke. He worked at the Nature Center in Asheville for many years and brought a number of 'wild friends' as part of his Appalachian Wild program. The kids got to pet salamanders, a raptor, a groundhog, a black snake and more!

We have been so lucky to have this great group of kids (mostly age 5-10) and instructors! This year, our instructors included Fonda Durner, who has worked in school administration for decades, and her two sports-crazy-20-something sons, Elliott and Jonathan. The kids went nuts over these guys! We also had master crafter, Elke Spirakis and Jennifer Hylemon – a college student seeking a degree in Special Education. Our assistant instructor, Sarah Tucker and our wonderful community volunteer, Peri Sheerin helped the kids with their projects and kept an especially watchful eye on the young ones.



It's been a joy to watch these kids come back each summer and to see them grow up. We are so pleased to know that many of our wolf cubs this year are already looking forward to next summer's camp and will be bringing their younger siblings or cousins. Even when our wolf cubs 'graduate', they will often ask to return as volunteers or helpers.



One thing for sure, after a day at the Village Wolf Cubs Camp, everyone sleeps well!



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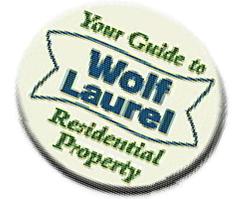
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160 Wolf's Head Court

Beautiful 3 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Meticulously maintained Custom Home In Wolf Laurel. Open, Bright, and Airy, Vaulted Ceilings, Master Bedroom Suite, SS Kitchen, Hardwood & Carpet flooring, Stone Fire place, Central Heating, Ceiling Fans, Central Vacuum, Screened Patio, over 1,000 ft of decking, fenced in yard for your pets also includes the lot next door, 1.5 total acres. **MLS 519955 \$379,000**



**64 Hampton Gap
\$239,000**

Cottage style 2 Bedroom 2 Bath with lots of storage. Stone Fire-place, Remodeled Kitchen & New Appliances, New Hardwood flooring through out the home, Paved Road, Exterior building which can be used as Garage or Storage, 550'sq ft covered back decking. Great Rental potential! **519963**



Lodge 107 \$139,000

Beautiful one bedroom Condo with Long Range views, Completely Remodeled New Granite counter tops, New Wood flooring, Gas fireplace, 1st floor for easy access & No Stairs ! Enjoy your Long Range View while having Dinner on your Deck ! **MLS 488961 REDUCED**



101 Sarvis Lane \$492,000

Walk to the Ski Slopes from this Beautiful 4 Bedroom & 3 Bath Like New Remodeled home with a **Million Dollar View !!** Open Vaulted Ceilings, Fireplace, Split Floor Plan, Covered Decking, and Garage too ! Great Rental home investment! **MLS 451100 REDUCED**



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Lots for Sale

Golf Course Lots

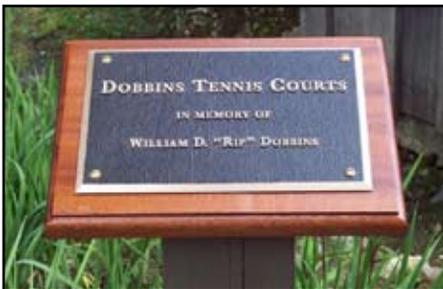
- 52 Bee Tree Ln \$20,000
- 235 Hanging Rock 37,500
- 735 Oakridge Ln 21,000
- 130 Phacelia Ln 15,000

Naming Rights Plaques Unveiled

By Jim Landry



On your next walking tour through and around the Village, please take notice of the Naming Rights plaques purchased by your fellow residents. As you may recall, back in 2010, a selection of prominent sites throughout the Village were offered for Naming Rights. There is a plaque entitled "We Made It Happen" to commemorate the WLPOA members' purchase of the Amenities Program and Village property. It has been placed over the outside entry doors of the Wolf Laurel Community Center.



The second plaque is located near the lower tennis court and honors the memory of William D. "Rip" Dobbins. All three tennis court naming rights were purchased by Ann Dobbins.



A third plaque is in memory of Frank Joseph Schlitt, Sr. and located next to the water wheel. The amphitheatre and water wheel were purchased by Mary Schlitt. Mr. Schlitt was involved with the recovery and relocation of the water wheel to its present site including the rockwork bracing.

A fourth plaque is located on the Village side of the bridge to the playground and recognizes the "Hope" Children's Playground honoring children afflicted with cancer. This site is in the process of being paid for by individual donations from any member wanting



to honor a child who has faced cancer. Contributions for this site will continue to be gratefully accepted.

We are very thankful for the donors' generosity. We greatly appreciate their thinking of the WLPOA Village Amenities Naming Rights as a way to honor and remember their loved ones.

There are several areas that remain available for Naming Rights; they include the Pavilion, Swimming Pool, Covered Bridge and Trout Pond. Please contact any member of the Board for details.

ATTENTION!

**FROM NOW UNTIL
SEASON'S END,
ALL FRIDAY NIGHTER
COST WILL BE
@\$2.50 or
\$5 a couple**

What's Going On Around Here?

**Wolf Laurel Area
Information and Events...
*At your Fingertips !!!***

www.WolfLaurelinfo.com

Click on "About Wolf Laurel" to View
Events, Information, and Property Owner Resources!

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR!

Last spring the Condrich family from Charlotte NC bought their Wolf Laurel home and joined the WLPOA and The Amenities. They represent the growing number of young families choosing Wolf Laurel for their vacation residence. If you see this dynamic family in The Village having fun, welcome them to the mountain.

Cindy: I am an Army brat baby born in Munich '67, raised in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, so very much a Yankee!

I went to school in Boston at Simmons College (Finance/Phil) and settled into a condo in Charlestown, next to Boston. My parents still reside in Falmouth, MA (Cape Cod). I have always been in financial software design/implementation/QA/support, working at Thomson Financial in Boston and then First Union/Wachovia/Wells Fargo here in Charlotte. I "retired" in 2004 when the twins were born. I always thought that my true calling was to be a mom and I settled into that roll very easily. I currently chair three positions on the Polo Ridge Elementary PTA; Volunteer Coordinator, Family Night Out (fundraising) and Webmaster. I also volunteer to produce SMART Board presentations for the Media Center (what they call libraries now-a-days!) SMART Boards are interactive computer screens that the teachers and children can use in front of the classroom. I toy with the possibility of going back to work one of these days. I almost did it last year but realized that the commute, new wardrobe, after school cost and summer care costs would rob me of most of my earnings, and energy! It didn't make sense to do that to the kids or the family as a whole. I am on the lookout for a great work-at-home possibility!

Russ: I was born in '63; I grew up southwest of Cleveland and suffered

through the many trials and tribulations of both the Cleveland Indians and Browns. After high school I spent six years in the US Navy, stationed 3 years in Jacksonville, deployed on the USS Nimitz aircraft carrier, and also spent 3 years in Key West. After the Navy, I completed my undergraduate and MBA degrees from Baldwin-Wallace College. I began a 20+ year career in the Financial Services industry, working first at Key Bank for six years,



then consulting for TSC and PwC for another six years. I have been working at Bank of America since 2001. My hobbies are golf, music, food & wine and of course Lego's!

Cindy & Russ met in '97 in Charlotte while working on a joint Thomson Financial/First Union implementation. We married on a beautiful day, June 5 1999, in Falmouth, MA and honeymooned in Chatham. We moved into our first home in Charlotte in November, 1999 and have loved living in Charlotte ever since.

Sam & Grace were born September 29, 2004. They were easy and wonderful babies (yes, they were easy and oh so happy babies!). They will be turning 8 soon and starting 2nd grade. Grace is my outdoor girl, always interested in bugs and everything about the outdoors, as well as Barbies, baby dolls

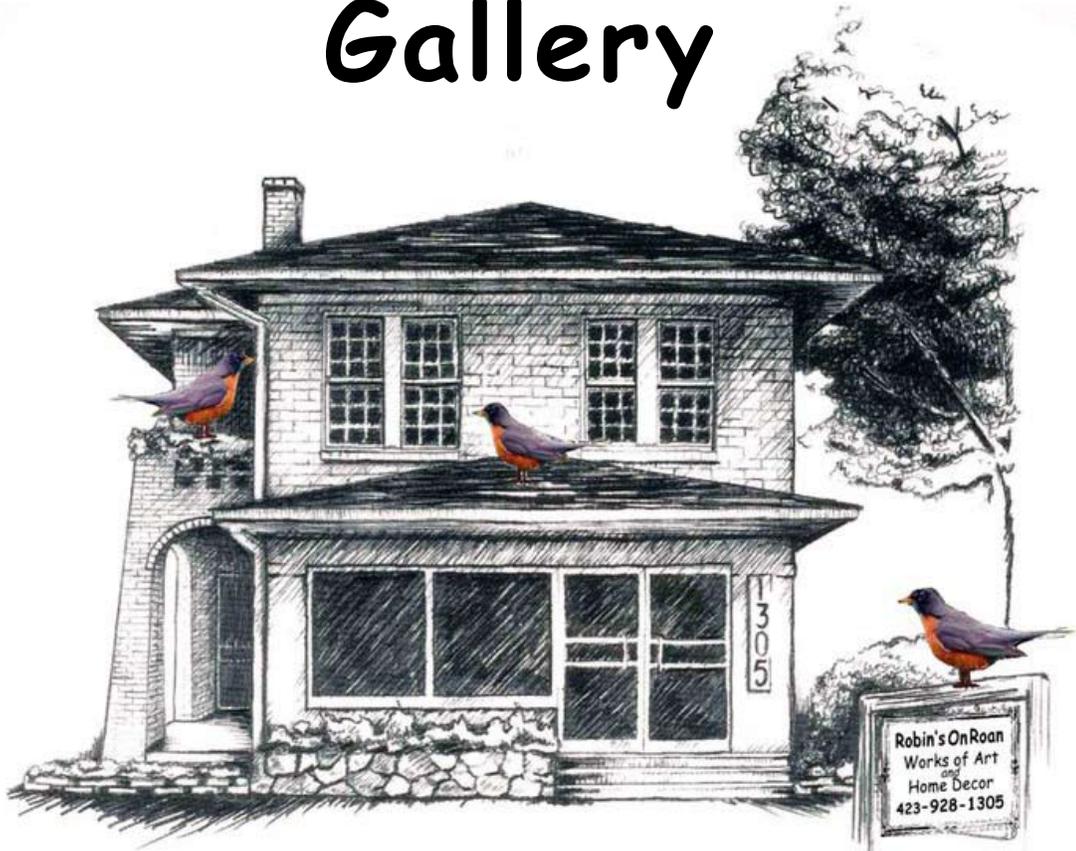
and stuffed animals. Sam is my techno-boy. He loves computers, Xbox, robots, LEGOS, guns, lasers and battling. Grace is currently learning English equestrian riding and horse-keeping. Both Sam and Grace currently take piano, and up until recently were in Tae-kwon-do; they had achieved their brown belts (two away from Black). We are not sure about extracurricular activities for the fall. They are very sweet, and although no longer as easy as babies, they are growing into wonderful little people.

Why Wolf Laurel? Our search for a family get-away started 2-years ago. It was a tedious search. We looked at developments in Banner Elk, Black Mountain and Leicester, and finally happened upon Wolf Laurel. It has everything that we were looking for in a mountain community. There are amenities that we can enjoy as a family such as the pool, fishing pond, tennis courts and hiking trails. And Asheville, with all it has to offer, is right around the corner! It is a perfect fit

for us -- a place where we can bring our children and enjoy the outdoors together.



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Communications Survey

by Jim & Nancy Landry

In June, our membership was asked to participate in a short communications survey to assist in determining what changes should be made to the website. Thank you to the 128 participants, approximately 30% of our membership, who responded to the request.

The changes you will soon notice on the website will reflect the ratio of work input required in relation to the website usage as shown in the survey. The Calendar and Bulletin Board pages will be combined to include meetings and events within Wolf Laurel as well as events in the immediate surrounding communities. Based upon very favorable survey results and additional e-mail responses, we'll move forward with the electronic *Top of the Bald*

for those who have an email address. The *TOB* will also be presented on the website, although delayed by two months.

The survey shows that only 40% of our viewers read the Trading Post and Advertisers pages. However, these pages will continue as before since little work is involved in their upkeep, and the Advertisers' page is a condition of sale for ad space in the *Top of the Bald* and our Telephone Directory. Activity is expected to increase on these pages as real estate classifieds will soon be permitted on the Trading Post page.

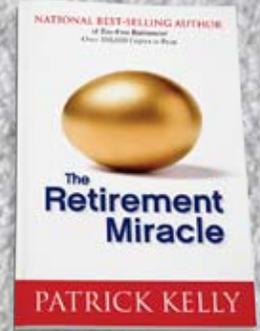
We are confident that with the combination of email alerts, newsletter and website; we are reaching a

vast majority of our membership. Communications will improve as more members become computer-connected, and use of the electronic medium by WLPOA will also help to cut costs.

Your ideas to improve communications are always welcome and so is your participation in contributing articles of interest to the *Top of the Bald* publication. The surveys are helpful for determining items of interest and in how we can provide better services to our membership. Thank you again for your participation.

Communications Survey Question	Once/Mo	Once/Wk	Twice/Wk	Never	Yes	No	Alerts	TOB	Website	Friends	Board
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
How often do you view the POA website?	45	26	14	16							
How often do you view the Bulletin Board Page?	42	23	5	29							
How often do you view the Amenities Page?	36	26	6	32							
How often do you view the Trading Post Page?	30	7	1	62							
How often do you view the Calendar Page?	43	23	6	28							
How often do you view the Advertisers Page?	30	8	2	60							
Do you find the winter roads report useful?					77	23					
Does the electronic format for the TOB work for you?					82	18					
Do you read the minutes and financials sent by Alerts?					94	6					
Which communication do you rely upon for WL related topics?							39	32	20	5	5

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Ed Osborne, CFP
Wolf Laurel Resident

Call Me if you have any questions
or financial planning needs.

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- Investment and Insurance Planning for over 25 years
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ON THE ROAD AGAIN: Roads & Security

First and of greatest importance: Sandy has requested that each and every one of you check to make sure that your contact information at R&S is accurate and up to date! Some of you have fallen off her grid, and she has no way of contacting you. THAT IS NOT A GOOD THING! Many residents here have discontinued their land line phones, and she doesn't have current cell phone numbers or email addresses. Communication is critical for safety up here and not just in case of emergency, so check to make sure Sandy has a way to contact you! Be aware that some cell phone service is spotty at best here on the mountain.

The summer is half over and most operations are moving along as usual. The two recent washouts of Village Lane because of rain at the covered bridge being the exception. While the bridge was redesigned and replaced only two years ago, that design has not performed as expected. R&S is consulting with the engineering firm and the contractor to find a permanent solution. It will take some time, so your patience is requested. The bridge is safe, but the water and the paving washout are a nuisance.

At the last two R&S meetings several residents have expressed their concern about the spraying of herbicide by R&S crews on some roadsides across the

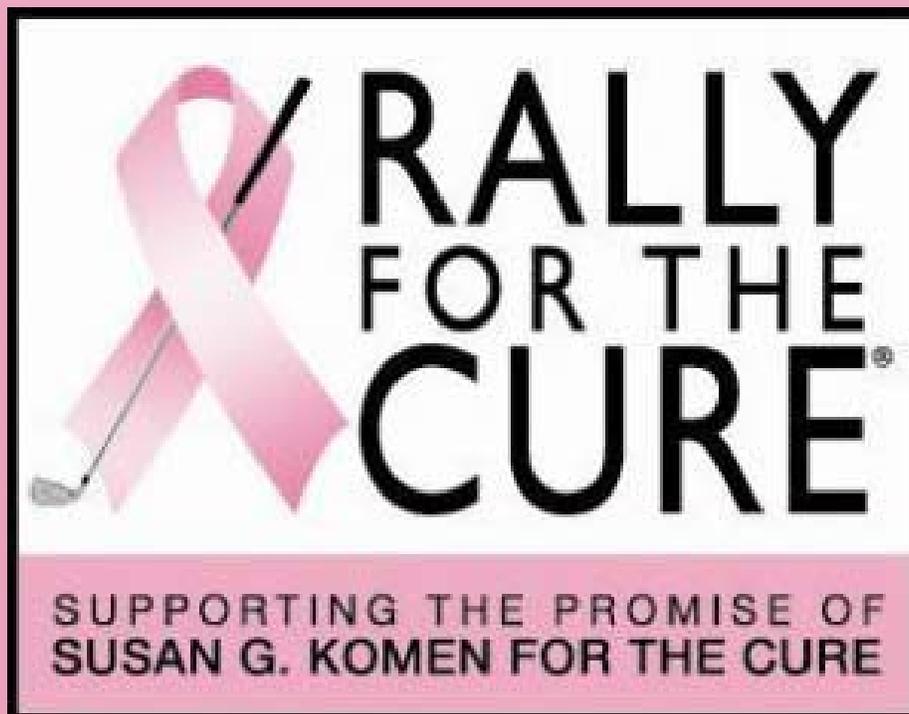
mountain. The issue is of concern to the board, and they are listening. However, their crews spray only 2 miles of our roads; the majority of the spraying is being conducted by French Broad Electric as its legal right to maintain electrical service. But your interest in the environmental beauty provided by wildflowers that exist here in Wolf Laurel is being duly noted by R&S. The board will cooperate in every way that is feasible, given the need to make our roads and shoulders as safe as possible. The primary spraying done by R&S crews is on Wolf Laurel Road, and that will continue, as it is necessary for visibility and culvert maintenance. The issue continues to be under scrutiny by the board. Have fun and BE SAFE!

Rally for the Cure is about empowering people to take action in the fight against breast cancer with the goal of increasing breast self-awareness. In the 30 years since the beginning, the 5 year survival rate for breast cancer, if found early, has risen from 74% to 98%. When not detected early, survival drops to only 23%. We must encourage women to take action now and the Rally for the Cure is helping us do just that.

In 2011, Susan G. Komen Foundation was able to invest an additional \$75 million in research. Another \$93 million was distributed in local communities, providing more than 700,000 women with free screenings and over 100,000 with treatment assistance.

Susan G. Komen has earned Charity Navigator's highest rating – four stars – for the 5th year in a row. This most recent four-star rating from the nation's largest and most relied upon evaluator of charities assures thousands of potential donors that Komen continues to excel in managing its finances and their donations. The 5 year average percentage of dollars spent on the Komen mission is 84%.

WLWGA is looking forward to our 7th Annual Susan G. Komen Rally for the Cure. Please refer to the insert for opportunities to support our Rally and contact information for Golf, Luncheon, and Sponsorships. Last year we had 101 women participate in the event – 64 golfers and 37 luncheon guests. Over the last 6 years we have raised \$20,000+. We designate our donation to Komen to the Tri-Cities Komen Affiliate that serves 22 county regions of NETN, SWVA, & Western NC, including Madison and Yancey County. 70% of the donation goes to the Affiliate while the remaining income goes to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Grants Program, supporting research, awards and educational and scientific programs around the world.



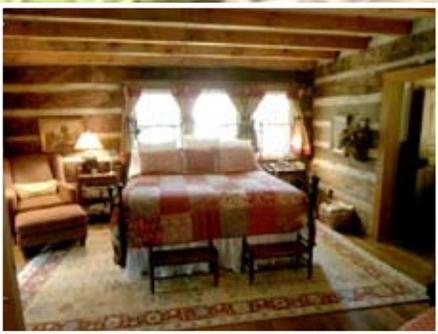


SPECTACULAR ANTIQUE LOG HOME!!

Rustic Elegance, spacious yet cozy..... 660 Wonderly Lane..... 3300sqft

This golf course antique log home offers 2 level living with master suite on main level. The dressing area with stained glass and a claw foot tub and separate shower area. The master suite opens up onto a covered porch. Eat-in kitchen with a huge stone fireplace, updated kitchen with granite counters, and kitchen island. Laundry room next to kitchen has plenty of cabinets for storage. Great room with cathedral ceilings, stone fireplace and access to a covered porch.

Skylights throughout the home makes this log home feel bright and open. Handcrafted wooden staircase leads you up to the second level. The second level offers tons of cubby space in the hallway area. Space for an office area and sleeping area. Sleeping loft overlooks the great room. The second bedroom is large and spacious with stained glass to add charm to this room. The third bedroom has direct access to the 2nd bath on the upper level. Oil furnace will keep you cozy in the winter months. The home is surrounded by covered decks to enjoy the cool summers. Off the dining area is a patio with



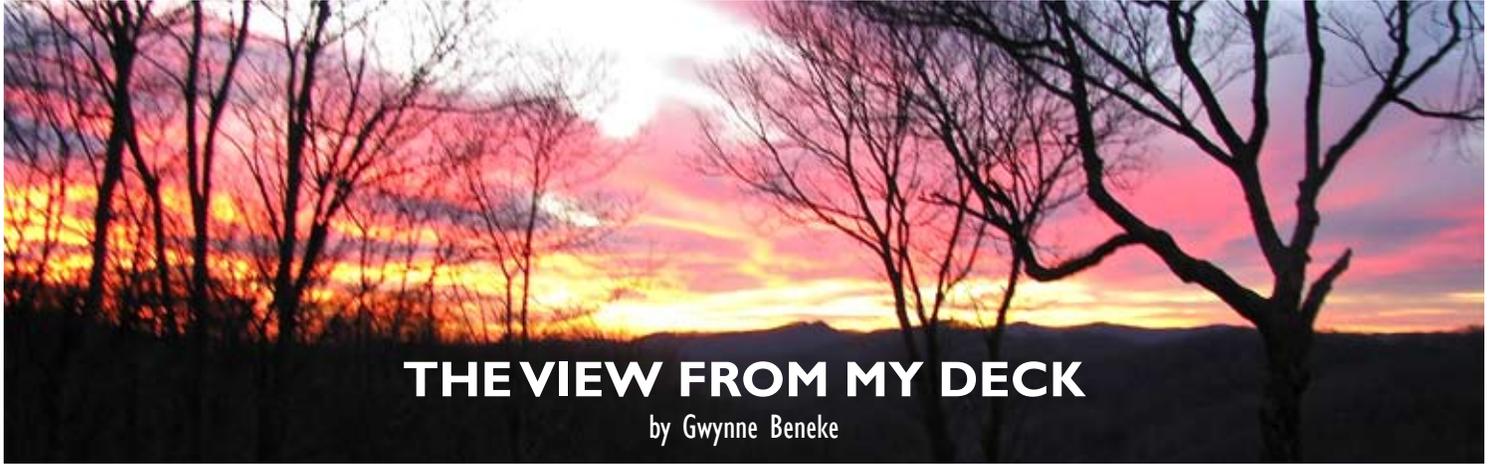
built-in stone fireplace to enjoy an evening dessert of smores. Rolling property makes this a great home for part or full-time living. Detached workshop and carport are just off the kitchen. Rail fence and steps down the property to the golf course and lily gardens. This home will convey most of the beautiful mountain home furnishings. Just bring your clothes and toothbrush and you will be ready to go. You can view the virtual tour for this home on our website at www.wolfmountainrealty.com .

For more info or a private showing call **Dinah Carver at 828/206-9777**

MLS#522509

This mountain home is being offered at \$550,000





THE VIEW FROM MY DECK

by Gwynne Beneke

Since assuming the role of editor in May, I have been thinking about ways to make the **TOB** more user friendly. Several new recurring features have been introduced in this and the last issues: "Meet Your Neighbor," which introduces interesting individuals and families that you may not know, "On the Road Again" for R&S information, a letter to the editor feature "For What It's Worth," and a feature article, "The View from my Deck," which from time to time will be written on a variety of subjects by guest authors. We will also try to keep you up to date on events that are open to all mountain residents.

The WLPOA Board approved a mission statement and content policy at the June meeting; that statement and policy are printed elsewhere in this issue. Please take time to familiarize yourselves with this change. You should be able to rely on your **TOB** for factual,

accurate information that has been "vetted" in the manner of professional publications. Nancy Schmidt will be the board member serving on the editorial board, and Lynn Mathews has agreed to serve at large.

There is also a feature introduced in this issue where you may express your opinions ("For What It's Worth"), and the "staff" (me!) welcomes submissions for its content. More plans are in the works -- photo essays, more articles about Village history; we will always give priority to keeping you up to date on POA and Amenities events. **THE TOP OF THE BALD** is YOUR publication. We want and value your feedback.

For those of you who have email addresses listed in your POA contact information, you will continue to receive the **TOB** electronically. If you do not have an email address, you must

notify the WLPOA office that you would like to continue to receive your copy by mail. As of this issue we will not be mailing issues to everyone -- only to those who have requested to continue receiving the **TOB** by mail. Mailing and the time consuming task of stuffing envelopes is a cost that we need to minimize. There will always be current printed copies of the **TOB** available at the Community Center, so if you are HERE and your **TOB** goes THERE, stop by and pick one up. In 2013 there will be new deadline dates, hopefully minimizing those events that fall between the cracks because of current deadlines. In addition, this coming winter we will devise an archiving system, preserving past **TOB's** in an orderly manner and making research in past issues more accessible and less time consuming. We hope you approve of the changes we are making. Our intent is to build a better **TOB!**

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Top of the Bald Policy

Top of the Bald Mission Statement

As the official publication of the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association, the bi-monthly *Top of the Bald* informs members of community events, actions of its board, and programs which improve and maintain the harmonious environment of our community.

Editorial and Publication Policy

An editorial board, comprised of the editor of the **Top of the Bald**, one WLPOA board member, and one WLPOA non-board member will be constituted. If the editor is a member of the board, then two members from the POA membership at large will be selected. At the discretion of the

editor, this board will review both solicited and unsolicited articles as to their appropriateness for publication. Meetings may be called by the editor or any member of the editorial board.

1. Issues of potential controversy are not usually appropriate subject matter for the **Top of the Bald**, unless such issues concern the safe, healthful, and harmonious living conditions of the Wolf Laurel community. Issues of a general civic interest are encouraged, should be related to the interests of the entire community, and should not represent other private entities.

2. Rulings and official policy of the WLPOA board are always to be given priority. News from other community boards (R&S) is encouraged.

3. **The Top of the Bald** will strive to promote unity and cooperation in the community; providing the clarification of facts, avoiding “hearsay” and gossip are the means to that end. The **TOB** should be a publication that members can rely upon for accuracy. Fact checking and contacting verifiable sources are paramount.

4. The development of new regularly recurring columns or sections is at the discretion of the editor and the editorial board.

5. The judgment of the editor, in consultation with the board as needed, regarding the publication of any and all items will be final.

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**Wolf Laurel Women’s Golf Association 7th Annual
Susan G. Komen Rally for the Cure Golf Tournament & Luncheon
Wednesday, August 22**

Opportunities to Participate in this Community Wide Event:

~~~~~  
**Golf Tournament August 22 ~ \$75**

Continental Breakfast & Registration~7:45 ~ 8:30AM ~ Tee Time ~ 8:45 AM~Golf  
Entry fee of \$75.00 includes ~ Golf, Mulligans, Lunch, Awards &  
\$20.00 donation to The Komen Foundation

Memory Tree, Raffle, 50/50, Door Prizes Too!

**Please make checks payable to WLWGA & drop off at Pro Shop**

~~~~~  
Luncheon August 22 ~ \$25

\$25 includes \$5 to the Komen Foundation ~Reservations by email or phone to:
Gloria Davenport ~ gdav@bellsouth.net or **828-450-3034**
Luncheon Registration 1:30 p.m. ~ Luncheon 1:45 p.m.

Memory Tree, Raffle, 50/50, Door Prizes Too!

Please make checks payable to WLWGA & drop off at Pro Shop

~~~~~  
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**Please make your Sponsor checks payable to:**

**Susan G. Komen Rally for the Cure**

**Note Sponsor on the check ~ drop off at Pro Shop**

~~~~~  
70% of all money raised at our Rally will go to the Tri-Cities Komen Affiliate that serves 22 county regions of NE TN, SWVA, & Western NC including Madison and Yancey County, while the remaining income goes to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Grants Program supporting research, awards and educational and scientific programs around the world.

**Chair Barby McQueen 680-9892 or tutu05@ccvn.com
Golf Chair Earlene Shofi 680-9041 or earlenes@frontier.com**



Top of the Bald

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association

PREVIEW OF TOB COMING ATTRACTIONS

An article on the history of the waterwheel

An article on the Spring House and its new life as a quiet place for meditation or prayer

Amenities Committee new, exciting plans for NEXT YEAR

An article on the history of "The Barn" (our Community Center)

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RESTAURANT RAMBLINGS

By Gwynne Beneke

While discovering new restaurants and returning to old favorites is great fun, we still love entertaining at home. With guests visiting the mountain, filling spare bedrooms and emptying the pantry and freezer, we thought you might like to know about three sources of great food you can purchase to prepare at home that we've found in Asheville; they are bunched together in one block on Charlotte Street, just off I240, down the street from Starbucks. City Bakery (www.citybakery.net) has great bread and sweets (they supply some of our favorite restaurants with their baked goods like Cucina24, The Admiral, Curate) and they are a full service deli as well.

BlueWater Seafood and Café (www.bluewaterseafood.net) is two doors down the block; you can buy absolutely fresh fish that's delivered daily and savor a plethora of tasty dishes with a glass of wine as well. The Chop Shop (www.chopshopbutchery.com) is on the corner of Charlotte and Chestnut (same block) which specializes in locally produced grass-fed beef, pork, lamb, and poultry, cut right before your eyes by Karen in her glass enclosed butchery! To accomplish essentially an all-in-one shopping stop plus lunch, park in City Bakery's lot or turn left at Chestnut St. and park across the street in the designated Chop Shop area. Be sure to take a good hefty ice chest with you -- you're going to need it!

City Bakery bakes a long list of variety breads on different days, but staples (sourdough, whole wheat, country white) are available every day. They sell out by 1:30, so plan

ahead! I buy the loaves whole and slice them at home, but they will slice for you, if you wish. Consult the website to determine which days special breads are baked; you can call ahead and reserve these special breads. This deli was one of the first we discovered when we moved to the area; it has been one of our favorite lunch places for six years. We have eaten at both the downtown location and Charlotte Street, but somehow we prefer the more intimate original bakery in the more residential area. The sandwiches are made with fresh bread and the freshest local veggies. The soup menu changes daily. The cookies, tarts, and sweet breads will tempt you to ditch your diet.

If you prefer to have a bowl of oyster stew or San Francisco style cioppino, settle into a small booth at BlueWater Seafood. There are only six tables here, so plan ahead; they are open for both lunch and dinner. Several take home, ready-made seafood items (salmon and crabcakes) are displayed in the glass case and the specials are written on the back wall blackboards. The fresh fish is beautifully laid out on ice-covered counters. The tuna and swordfish steaks look delectable. One taste of the crawfish etouffee' and you'll think you've been transported to the French Quarter in the Big Easy.

Your last stop may be the best. I like beef, but frankly I don't eat it that often. When I do eat it, it has to be RARE! And prime. Worth the expense. Finding that combination is not easy. The Chop Shop's uncompromising policy of local and grass-fed fits my standard. I bought a large flatiron steak; I rubbed it with

some garlic and my homemade hot spice mix, and seared it stovetop. Oh my. Very tender and rare, sliced thinly -- one steak made six generous servings! In the case I saw a tri-tip roast, a cut that can be grilled like a steak and one that is difficult to find. My grill-master son would be frothing at the mouth! But the most fun was standing at the glass, watching Karen expertly dismember a quarter of a beef, ribs first. The staff will take your order over the phone and have it ready when you specify. There was an older man waiting for an on-the-spot order; I asked him what he had ordered. "Just hamburger, but you ought to taste it! Wow! It's perfect. I could almost eat it raw!" I didn't tell him, but one of my favorite beef dishes is steak tartar. I would have no fear ordering the makings of that HERE!

HEADS UP: A new restaurant in Weaverville, The Glass Onion, is a definite favorite. The trout tasted like my father had caught it that morning on the Brazos north of Santa Fe. Also, DID YOU KNOW TRADER JOE'S IS COMING TO ASHEVILLE? Yippee!

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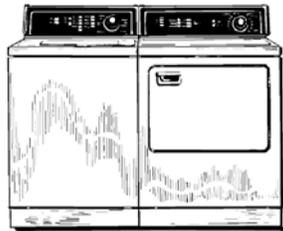
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Top of the Bald Newsletter

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FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH (in my opinion)

This column is a "Letters to the Editor" feature where your thoughts and opinions may be expressed, related to issues of interest to our residents.

Content is carefully edited only when space demands it; writers are responsible for checking facts.

July 12, 2012

My name is Ann Dobbins, and I am here once again to plead our case for saving the wild flowers of Wolf Laurel - - one of the last wild flower preserves in these mountains.

We are aware that French Broad Electric was the main offender in the drastic poisoning and mowing of the flowers, but we have witnessed our own road crews perpetuating this practice. Endangered are pollinating bees, fireflies, and seed-eating birds, all of which depend on flowering vegetation. Butterflies are no longer present here. This spring, the gorgeous spread of phacelia near the top of Big Bald were nearly wiped out, and this summer, drastic cutting caused erosion of rocks and mud onto some roads. My own waterfall smelled of herbicide for several days following spraying. Clearly, great ecological harm has been done.

At the last meeting of this board, Tom Eller invited me to present a plan. My friends, 80 of us, plan nothing other than to petition this board to stop poisoning and mowing the banks where wildflowers grow. We fully agree that the edges of the roads, drainage ditches, electric poles, and guy wires must be kept clear of vegetation, and we concede that Wolf Laurel Road is to be kept groomed in parkway fashion.

Some harmless wildflowers are now making a comeback. They are self-sustaining, requiring no care. They provide much pleasure, and are a heritage for our grandchildren. Please don't destroy them.

We have always looked to Road and Security not only to maintain our roads, but to also safeguard us. If safety of our residents is this board's concern, the following should be addressed:

1. Low visibility during fogs necessitates white roadside stripes or reflectors.
2. Wildfire danger precludes the use of fireworks (other than the professionally presented 4th of July Program) by any individuals, at any time, or place on the mountain.

Let's work together!

Thank you!
Ann

Ann Dobbins
2868 El Miner Drive
Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754



I agree with what the distinguished and long-time resident, Mrs. Ann Dobbins, who has resided at Wolf Laurel for 28 years, has said. She has seen this mountain in its many stages of growth and development. She has contributed her time and her money to many projects, as she cares very deeply for the mountain and the people who reside at Wolf Laurel.

She has been here through most the developers and the road maintenance crews. She has been here for snow removal, driven on roads when I dare say they were cow paths compared to what we have today. And now this Board, and I reference the letter sent to her on July 2, 2012, wants use the cutting of wildflowers as a safety issue.

However, per the R&S Board minutes of May 17, 2012, the R&S Board has given Jason Brown approval to continue to clear sections of Wolf Laurel roads and destroy the beauty of this mountain. You can go to Reynolds Mountain, Florida, the interstate, etc., if you want grass, but we ask that you protect these beautiful and possibly Federally endangered or threatened plants.

Ann and I realize that all of this damage may not be entirely the result of the Road Maintenance Crew. The R&S Board says that French Broad Electric is doing the herbicide spraying. I have contacted French Broad Electric but they have not returned the telephone calls. I have also contacted the NC Agriculture Extension Agency. They also are working with French Broad

Electric to stop the use of herbicides. Hopefully we can bring an outside force to stop French Broad Electric from this practice.

There are 585 trees, flowering plants, & non-flowering plants, ferns and lichens that are listed as endangered or threatened in NC. So when spraying and the close mowing occur at the times that it does, these plants are being killed. How do you know you are not killing a federally protected plant? 22 plants are listed on the US Fish & Wildlife Service as threatened or endangered for Madison & Yancey Counties. Is a plant you sprayed with a back pack sprayer one of them?

Also, if French Board is the part of the problem, we encourage this Board to work with French Board to eliminate the wholesale spraying to prevent erosion. Also we ask for Road Maintenance to plant ground cover where plants have been killed to stop the erosion.

Bottom line all of this is costing additional money to mow and maintain where wildflowers once stood for beauty and enjoyment by humans and other wildlife! We need our birds, bees, and butterflies also. Keep the wildflowers.

Jessica McGee
92 Pisgah Pass
Mars Hill, NC 28754
828-689-3095

Note: TOB investigation reveals that R&S and French Broad are using entirely different herbicides. R&S uses CROSSBOW, an industrial variety of "Roundup," used widely by property owners; it is a systemic substance that does not leach and damage the soil and is reported to be more "friendly" to insects and grass. French Broad Electric uses GARLON, for which a federal license is required; its use is mandated to be highly regulated and monitored, as its effect is more widespread and potentially damaging; specific training is required for those who apply this substance because of its potentially toxic effect.



BREAKING NEWS!

On Saturday July 28 The Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association held its Annual Meeting and board elections. The new board members elected for two year terms are the following: Earlene Shofi, Gene

Woolf, Mark Miller, Madeline Morin, and Dick Moeller. Board members remaining are Joanne Wit, John Beneke, Bruce Gutknecht, Nancy Schmidt, Chuck Freeman, and Frank Perritt.

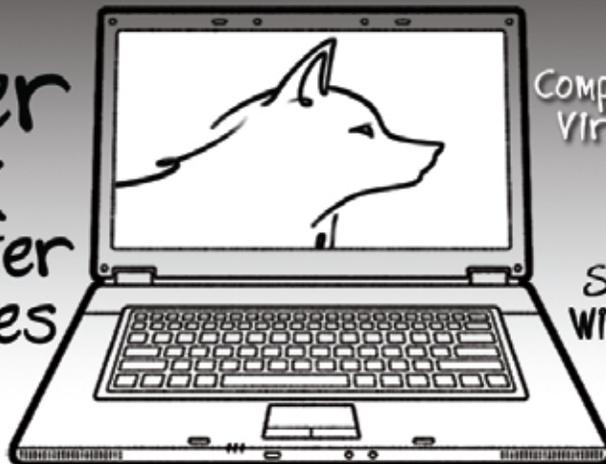
Board officers elected for 2012-2013 are President, Frank Perritt; Vice President, Mark Miller; Secretary, Joanne Wit; and Treasurer, John Beneke.

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about the
latest events and
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868 ENGLISH RIDGE

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48 GROUSE THICKET

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