

Top of the Bald

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association



Office: 828-689-9229

Winter 2018

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Designed and published by



ATHENS PUBLISHING CO., INC.

Community Directories & Newsletters

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Earlene Shofi

Happy New Year to all of our wonderful residents! We are looking forward to another year packed with enough activities during the season to send you back to your other homes totally exhausted at the end of the 2018 season. "Other homes," meaning the long drive back to places we enjoy but don't have quite as much fun as once we arrive in our own Wolf Laurel. I've been told that some of those who live in WL year round are actually relieved when the mass exodus occurs, just so they can rest.

By now, if you've been reading all the TOB's, you have been informed and of course know what a WWTP is, right? Ok, let's review: it's the Waste Water Treatment Plant that our POA Board and the RM&S Board have been seeking to replace for a long time. The Treatment Plant services the RM&S building, the Barn, and Pavilion, so we really do need this service. Unfortunately, the cost of maintaining the plant is exorbitant since it needs to be monitored almost daily by professionals who monitor by testing for things you don't want to know about and I prefer not to mention. If you've seen some very large diggings above and on the side of the Village pond, it is because, if all goes well, we're planning to install a septic system that will service both

RM&S and POA organizations. The large holes are from our contractor, Land Resource Management, testing for what we used to call "soil perk," now called soil testing. If, as planned, RM&S and WLPOA are able to install the system this 2018 season, we will eliminate the high



cost of the WWTP. This will entail construction that, at times, may be a nuisance as we all appreciate our unspoiled quiet Village, but all will be transformed back to pristine condition when completed. After the initial cost of installation of the septic system, the savings will be substantial to both RM&S and POA. Let's hope this can be concluded this upcoming season!

While working on Village Club Facilities projects, Fred Tygart had one of our tennis courts repaired and repainted. It looked great upon completion, however that did create some controversy. The Pickleball players requested equal updates for their court which was in much need of rejuvenation. Pickleball has become very popular in WL,

Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association

thanks to the efforts of Becky and George Shennan with their continuous support and instruction of the game. One of our tennis courts had been reassigned for Pickleball play only, but had not been updated with new paint for the PB lines and markings. At their request, Fred and I met with player representatives and heard their very vocal but friendly demands. One of the Pickleball players offered to pay half of the cost of redoing the court if the Village Club were willing to do the same. Our WLPOA Board voted unanimously to approve this generous offer and go forward with the overhaul of the court. The condition of the offer was that the donor would remain anonymous, however, I suspect many of the Pickleball folks know. THANKS anonymous donors, Becky and George, David Schmidt, and all the others who have made this such a great Village Club activity. The new court is blue and beautiful!

Cindy Tucker and Ronnie Rice are very appreciative for another expenditure that we happily paid when the furnace in the Barn decided it was time just to not fire itself up again. The installation of a new furnace was

expedited with the assistance of Terry Ranostaj and Jim Landry. Cindy and Ronnie are now able to enter the Barn for their regular winter work schedule without having to be thawed at the close of the day. Check online for winter hours of operation, or email Cindy, if you need information.

I'm sure all of you remember the chaos that was previously associated with the mail cabin no one wanted to enter. Now that it's been tamed, we are still seeking volunteers to keep it organized. Cate Aaron is in charge of winter

work days. You don't have to sign up for an entire week, if you have some extra time check with Cate.

Thanks to Gene Woolf for coordinating the winter WLPOA programs, including Friday gatherings and Thanksgiving and Christmas specials. Look for more to come through April.

Your WLPOA Board is always interested in making improvements to all we do. Please contact a Board member or our office staff if you have suggestions that we can implement for a better Wolf Laurel.



WLPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Earlene Shofi, *President*
Fred Tygart, *Vice President*
Lynn Cagney, *Secretary*
David Smith, *Treasurer*
Richard Ashley
John Brackett

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

WLPOA STAFF

Ronnie Rice, *Office Manager*
Cindy Tucker, *Village Club Director*



Top of the Bald Newsletter

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Designed and published by



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

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

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT WOLF LAUREL

Lori Wyman Macaulay

The winter months are not usually as populated up at Wolf Laurel as the summer time is. Most people winterize their homes and flee south until it warms up a bit. Once the temperatures start rising on the mountain, the southerners come back up to spend several glorious months at their home away from home. More and more, however, residents of Wolf Laurel are spending their winter months in their mountain homes as well.



Last year for 2016-2017 New Years, several people started discussing how great it would be if we had a New Year's Eve party for those still up in Wolf Laurel. It was decided that the Wolf Laurel Country Club would be rented out so about 100 people could be accommodated. Lo and behold, the response was tremendous and the country club was packed. Better still, all the residents attending this great event only had to drive minutes to get to and from the party. No one knew how overwhelming the response would be to this request. The party was a complete success!

This year, the question of New Year's Eve came up again. Everyone who had attended the party last year wanted to attend again, but who would organize it? Crystal and Roy McMurray stepped up to the plate again and spearheaded this fabulous event for the second year in a row.

There were over 100 RSVP's. There were even some people from Asheville and parts in between there and Wolf Laurel who said they would ring in the New Year

with everyone. The cost was kept to a minimum of \$25 per person. This included great entertainment with the Sound Investment Band from Hendersonville and an open bar, not to mention all of the decorations, paper goods, and the rental and clean up of the country club. We also had some wonderful bartenders and waiters with Howard, Sandy, and Sue who work at the country club during season. They were all delightful as always and it was great fun to see them off season as well.

In order to keep the cost down, everyone brought a dish to share. We had a tantalizing array of foods to satiate everyone's palate. Some of the yummy food included chicken wings, mac and cheese, shrimp, scalloped potatoes, green salad, and even a wonderful potato leek soup. There were lots of tantalizing desserts to appeal to everyone's taste buds, also. There was plenty for everyone to enjoy! A raffle was held during the evening and many people won some nice prizes. The dancing and festivities went on well past midnight.

There was a pretty severe ice storm that night, so many who had said they would attend were unable to get out of their driveways. The almost 90 of us who did venture out were kept warm by the numerous fireplaces that were roaring in the dining room and bar areas all night long. Let's not forget to mention the non-stop dancing that also kept the body heat on high.

A good time, indeed, was had by all. Everyone left with smiles and hugs all around. We rang in the New Year in the best way possible: with our Wolf Laurel friends and family. Here's to the best year yet—and a happy 2018 to all of you!!!



IN MEMORIAM

The following members or former members of the Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association passed away in 2017. We will miss them and extend our condolences to their families.

Reed & Dot Barnett

Russell Parks

Ray Sullivan

Les Churchill

Jane Renfroe

Sandy Gwozdo who worked for WLRMS and WLPOA in the past

John Fellenz

Dr. Alan Ross

Marie Luranc

Dr. Bob Slaughter

Jay Overman

Sue Smith

We apologize if we have inadvertently missed any member of the Association. Please inform us of any.

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

The annual Christmas Party was held in the Barn on Saturday, December 16, 2017. A good crowd of about 35 turned out on a cold evening to enjoy tasty food and cheerful camaraderie. The counter and dessert table were overflowing with an array of delicious dishes brought by everyone. The fire in the stove plus the beautiful tree, wreaths and decorations, thanks to Nancy Landry (and Jim too), contributed to the warm and festive atmosphere.

A good time was had by all and we want to offer a special "Thank You" to everyone who had a hand in organizing the party, especially Gene and Amelia Woolf!



WLPOA 2018 WINTER PARTIES! ALL WELCOME!



All events are dependent upon the weather and will be cancelled or postponed if driving conditions are unsafe.

We will post an e-mail in case of cancellation or postponement.

All events will take place in the main level of the WLPOA Community Center. Most will be like our Village Club Friday Socials – BYOB and appetizer, hot finger food, or dessert to share.

Friday Social, February 2, 6 PM

Friday Social, February 16, 6 PM

Friday Social, March 2, 6 PM

Saint Patrick's Party, Saturday, March 17

We hope you will have the opportunity to come out and enjoy these wonderful social occasions!

WLRMS CONTINUES TO TRANSITION

Larry Smith, President WLRMS

It is January 1, 2018 as I prepare this article for TOB. The temperature at Wolf Laurel was a -1 degree this morning when I checked Ray's Weather. Madison County was under both a Black Ice and Wind Chill Warning. Residents were being told to stay indoors and off the roads. For those of us sitting in South Florida this morning with our doors open enjoying 70 degrees, it is difficult to appreciate the efforts of our road crew as they struggle to free our pavement from ice. The state DOT has even closed portions of I-26 due to ice.

As our staff struggles through the winter to complete their tasks, please know that your Board of Directors continues to meet through the winter in our effort to insure an efficient and effective operation of both roads and security. Annually, we have exposed our accounts to an independent review to gain a better understanding of how we spend your assessments. This year, the Board has elected to expose the books to an independent audit. We hope to improve our accounting methods to accomplish a more efficient expenditure of funds, and to assure the community they are getting a good value for their investment. We have issued a Request for Proposals from several area accounting firms in hope of achieving an audit at a cost in the range of our current review.

You should understand that the WLRMS is in sound financial condition. In 2012, we purchased the assets from the developer using reserve funds. From 2012 until 2015 we operated without reserves as we struggled to survive the difficult years of the transition. Beginning in 2015, we once again began creating reserves with the hope of retaining sufficient funds equal to three months

of operating costs. We have now accomplished that mission. In part, this goal is a result of severe restrictions on expenditures. We asked staff to work without the usual fringe benefits. They had no health insurance or retirement benefits. In the 2018 budget, we have been able to create these benefits once again for our staff. This enables our Board to once again become competitive in the employee marketplace. We thank our staff members who stuck with us during the difficult days.

In the coming days, your Board will explore the possible savings we are achieving to further expedite the rebuilding of our infrastructure. The two dominant issues continue to be drainage and the resurfacing of Wolf Laurel Road. During a severe storm in late Fall, we had significant damage in several areas related to poor drainage. These repairs will need to be accomplished when weather permits.

This summer, we will have an annual election for three board seats. Carol Krueger, and Eddie Shook will have completed an appointed term. Larry Smith will have completed his three year elected term. To be eligible to run, a candidate must be current in payment of WLRMS assessments. The Board is a working board with specific committee assignments based on abilities. There are areas of specific need. We can always use individuals with a background in heavy equipment, road construction, accounting, and general contracting. We would hope, once again, to have a number of individuals offer to serve. The Nominating Committee will then select the six candidates to best fit our needs and the community will elect three new Board members.

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WLPOA MEMBERSHIP

Lynn Cagney & Ronnie Rice

As 2017 has wound down and 2018 is upon us, we are happy to say we have 40 new Wolf Laurel Property Owners Association members - thank you and welcome to Wolf Laurel (see the list below). We would also like to thank the POA members who have supported our community by joining the Village Club. This support helps us to keep Wolf Laurel a naturally beautiful, fun, and friendly place. We encourage all residents to be sure their fees are paid up and current by March 15 if they want to be included in the 2018 WLPOA Directory.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are pleased to welcome the new members below that joined POA in 2017. Please seek them out and let them know of all the exciting opportunities POA has to offer, and invite them to an upcoming event. The POA welcomed 40 new members into its association last year, with 7 of them becoming Village Club members. We also had 14 Village Club trials trying out the Village Club for the season.

Alex, Joanne	Heumiller, Paul	Repass, John
Anderson, Gary & Cara	Johnson, Deborah	Revell, Randall & Michelle
Barfield, Thomas & Dorothy	Jubert, Jay	Roseberry, Brian & Leigh Ann
Benton, Earl	Kaiser, Angela	Shively, Nora
Bragg, Christoper & Kathy	Kandhasamy, Nandha	Smith, Darrell & Rebecca
Causey, David & Victoria	Kuzma, Kevin & Renee	Speight, Brooke
Chavers, Christopher & Daisy	Mann, Donna	Sprague, Loer
Chewning, Ron	Margolin, Michael	Stagner, James
Collette, Shannon & Kisha	Meier, Gregory & Lisa	Thomasson, W. Richard & Kathryn
Davis, Laura & Timmothy	Morris, Daniel & Natalie	Van Donsel, Jonathan & Cynthia
Fay, Ashley & Kenneth	Mullaney, Arthur & Elizabeth	Wilcox, Stephan
Green, Timothy & Aracelid	Mullens, Dianna	Wimmer, Ryan & Alisha
Hartley, Daniel & Irene	Overman, Jay & Marie	WLM Investments, LLC

Although we have 40 new members, our overall membership has only grown by 17, up to 653 from 636 at the end of 2016. If you have questions about the membership, please call or email Ronnie at ronnie@wolflaurelpoa.com or 828-689-9229.



MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS: JACK & RACHEL BARGER

Jack and Rachel Barger are North Carolina natives who were lucky enough to discover Wolf Laurel by chance. Jack is originally from Davidson and Rachel from Greensboro in the piedmont area. Growing up in NC, Jack and Rachel both spent summers with family enjoying the cool mountain air in Asheville and Waynesville and taking in all that the Blue Ridge Mountains have to offer.

Jack is the Vice President of Central Steel & Wire and serves on the Board of Directors for his company. Rachel is a speech language pathologist and is employed by Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. Jack and Rachel both attended North Carolina State University for undergraduate school, Jack received his MBA from Kent State University and Rachel attended Baylor University for her graduate degree. Following Jack's career path in the metals industry, the Bargers have lived in Indianapolis, Houston, Dallas, Cleveland, and Chicago. Along the way, they were blessed with two children, a daughter, Hannah (14), and a son, Jackson (10). Outside of work, they busy themselves tending to their two labrador retrievers, supporting a local scout troop as Cub Scout leaders, or taxiing their children to seasonal sports teams. Jack's favorite pastime is a round of golf and Rachel enjoys cooking and scouring the local antique stores of the Asheville area.

They are celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary this summer and currently reside in Davidson, NC.

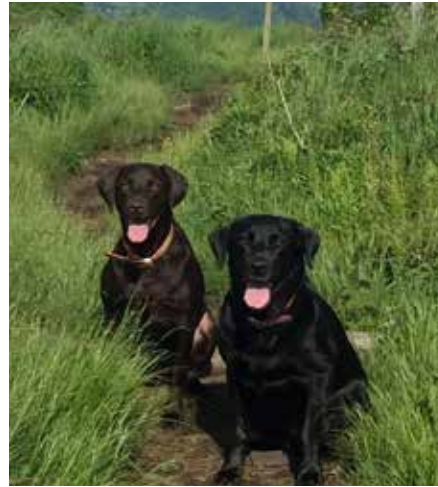
The Bargers found Wolf Laurel after discovering a real estate listing that lead them to the community. They immediately fell in love with the home of long time Wolf Laurel residents, Sonny and Sudie Colvette. The Bargers purchased the Colvette's



Masters 2017



Celebrating Jackson's 10th in Dallas



Top of Big Bald with Ellie and Faith

home on Lookout Drive in October 2015 and have been enjoying any chance they can to get away and escape to Wolf Laurel. "We really enjoy entertaining our family and friends here more than anything. From equestrian to the village club to hikes atop Big Bald to winter sports... personally we feel like this is a little slice of heaven. Everyone who visits asks, 'How did you find this place?'"

"Coming back home to NC, we always knew we wanted a mountain home and we couldn't be happier we found Wolf Laurel." After leaving

North Carolina for nearly 15 years,

coming back to home to be closer to family was an easy step. The next priority was finding a forever mountain home their family could enjoy for years to come. "After so many moves and relocating multiple times, it is a great feeling to know we have a place to start new traditions and new memories with our family." The Bargers are counting the days to retirement when they can enjoy even more time on the mountain!

MUCH TO DO IN WINTER AT WOLF LAUREL

Lori Wyman Macaulay

The winter in Wolf Laurel is usually not as busy as the summer months, but there was still plenty of activity going on in and around our community. My family always comes up for the 2-week period around Christmas and New Years. I have a 16 year-old daughter so it is always important for us to get away when she has her school vacations. This year was no exception.

The ski slopes at Wolf Ridge, right next door, and the 2 tube runs between our community and I-26 were certainly hopping. My daughter and I drove over to the ski lodge to watch all of the skiers

and those who just like to socialize in front of the roaring fireplaces. There is also a nice shop where you can purchase ski supplies as well as tee shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, hats, gloves, and more. Plus there are restaurant services inside if you want to get some chicken nuggets, fries, and a drink. There is plenty to do inside even if you are not a skier, which we are not!

I even stopped by the ski shop on Puncheon Fork Road to check out their heavy boots. There is no shortage of things to explore during the winter break. There are lots of year-rounders here in Wolf Laurel having parties and winter visitors getting together for the biggest and best New Year's Eve party at the

Wolf Laurel Country Club, which we rent out specifically for this event.

Many of my Wolf Laurel friends went hiking in the near zero temperatures. As one friend told me, as long as you bundle up well, you won't really get too cold.



I'm a Miami, Florida girl, so all of this snow and freezing temperatures is always a spectacular sight to behold. The view out the back of our log home is something not to be believed. The early morning sunrises with their orange, pink, and purple hues added to the sparkling white snowflakes dancing on all of the tree tops and mountains, is like something out of a fantasy book. I have many Wolf Laurel friends on Facebook and everyone was posting the most magnificent landscape photos. My non-Wolf Laurel friends couldn't believe that our photos weren't photo-shopped, but they were Mother Nature in all of her glory.

I have tried to coerce my Florida friends to come visit me during

this magical time of the year, but they prefer to wait until the summer and fall months. I guess I don't blame them as there is so much more to do when the weather isn't so cold and snowy.

One of my favorite events during the summer is Woofminster. Yes, you read that right! We, up here in Wolf Laurel, have our own version of the Westminster Dog Show. Since there are so many 4-legged visitors during the summer, we have a great afternoon event for everyone to participate in. There are Best Of categories and contests and

prizes and just a great way for all of the dog owners to get together to show off their other beloved family members. The best part is that all proceeds of this event go to help the Yancey County Animal Shelter. Everyone is always welcomed as it is just as much fun to watch as it is to participate in. We bring our two Chihuahuas and our daughter loves being their handler during the show. Everyone in the family can get in on this event.

Whether you enjoy Wolf Laurel during the winter or summer months, there is always plenty to do and see!

VILLAGE CLUB SPECIAL EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2018

The Village Club at Wolf Laurel offers a wonderful variety of regularly scheduled programs, classes, and social opportunities throughout the season. All those will be continued this season and the schedule will be available in the next TOP OF THE BALD. For now, a listing of most of our special events in 2018 is just something to be aware of – so you can plan with your family and friends. Note a few events are in the planning stage – be looking for updates!

Welcome Back to the Mountain! Friday, June 1, 6 PM. All welcome! BYOB. We'll provide appetizers and you can bring your specialty too! Also, we will have live music to enjoy. So, don't miss this fun Friday Social in the Village Pavilion.

Independence Day Celebration, Wednesday, July 4, 7 PM until. All welcome! We'll have fun for everyone - a fire truck from Ebb's Chapel Volunteer Fire Department for kids to explore, concession food for kids of all ages, inflatables for the kids, entertainment, and the best fireworks show around! Tickets: \$15 for anyone over 6 years of age and \$10 for 6 and under. Sponsorships are also available in order to reserve a parking space in The Village. We also have a number of handicapped parking spots available upon request. Be looking for an announcement for when ticket sales will begin.

Wolf Cubs Village Kids Camp! July 9-July 13, 9 AM – 3 PM. Lots of good old-fashioned kid fun right here in the Village. Science! Arts & Crafts! Sports! Swimming! Stream stomping! Wildlife education and so much more! Contact cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com for more information and a registration form. DO NOT wait to get your child or grandchild registered. This camp fills up every year. It's an awesome week (and, yes, we howl!).

Dog Days of Summer – Friday, August 3, 6 PM. Ticketed event with food. BYOB. We will enjoy live music during the evening. Menu and more info to come!

Woofminster – Date TBD. BYOB, an appetizer to share, and your pooch (or pooches) on a leash to compete in lots of fun doggie events! We will have awards and doggie treats. A wonderful event! Don't miss it!

In Concert! In The Village – be looking for announcements soon!

Other notable dates on the Mountain:

Wolf Laurel Stables Horse Camp – June 25-29

Bird Banders Vacation Bird School – July 9 – 13

Questions? Contact Cindy Tucker at 828-689-4089 or cindy@wolflaurelpoa.com.

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PROPANE AND CONSTRUCTION DELIVERIES

Larry Smith

Under certain conditions it becomes necessary for Roads and Security to close our gravel roads to heavy equipment. The concern is not snow, but rather the lack of it. Following a hard freeze, if we have a rapid warm-up, our roads thaw. This creates a condition in which the road base will not support heavy vehicles. Concrete and propane deliveries are prohibited under these conditions until such time as the road freezes once again, or the road dries and is no longer muddy. These suspensions to heavy traffic can last up to a week or more in duration. In an emergency, the propane companies do have the ability to deliver a smaller tank of propane in a 4 wheel drive pickup truck. The propane companies will generally call the gate during the winter to determine if the roads are passable. They prefer to avoid calling a wrecker to remove their vehicle and they want to avoid the cost of an expensive road repair from damage they have caused.

You can avoid this problem by beginning each winter with an adequate supply of propane to meet your need or by allowing the propane companies to check your tank when they have deliveries scheduled on the mountain.

Heavy construction equipment is another issue. Scheduling concrete deliveries during the winter is never a good idea. Uncured concrete does not like freezing temperatures. Thawed roads do not like concrete trucks. Bottom line - there is no good time during the winter to have concrete delivered to Wolf Laurel. The damage caused by a truck on a thawed road will double your construction cost.

WLPO BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Gail Ford

At the end of the 2017 season, there was a flurry of activity at the Community Center new - wreaths for the doors, furniture painted, and shuffling of decorative pieces in the Center. We were finally able to get pruning done at the Mail Cabin and near the Wolf Laurel sign as you leave the Community Center for better visibility. My goals for the future include dividing overgrown plants at the Center and the Rose Garden at the Nature Trail and striving for continuity in the annual planting of containers. A big thanks to my sister and drafted committee member Cassandra Bradham. Stay warm,

Gail Ford

Editor's Note: Also, a Big Thanks to Nancy and Jim Landry for the wreaths at the Community Center and Mailroom, and the greenery that decorated the mail kiosks for this and the past few years!



BOOK CLUB

Karen Gerry

Hope those of you up there at Wolf Laurel are keeping warm, and those in other climes are enjoying their winter!

Reading when it is cold outside is my favorite pastime. We [in South Florida] have been getting down in the 40s at night (I know, boo hoo). We can always tell the people from up North, they are at the beach with swim suits and flip flops. We wear closed toed shoes and sweatshirts with hoods!

There are certainly many books to read during those cold days, curled up in your favorite chair – here are a couple I have to recommend: “The Woman in Cabin Ten” by Ruth Ware and “The Great Influenza” by John M. Barry.

Happy Reading! If you're not already participating, let me know if you'd like to join our Book Club. See you next spring.

Karen

NOTES FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN

Yvonne Carignan

Library Donations

Many thanks to generous WLPOA members for ongoing support of our library with donations of wonderful books! New donations keep me busy all year, but a bag or box of new books for the library is a treat indeed. There is always need for more books because our regular readers work through the collection quickly. Some have asked what the library needs and what cannot be used. Following are some ideas to answer those questions:

Recent best sellers and books from the last year or so are always favorites. People love to get their hands on the latest reads. When you are particularly excited about something you've read, consider giving it to the library immediately so it can be shared with others.

A copy of titles completed by the various book clubs in Wolf Laurel are popular. We have usually, but not always, received the book clubs' finished books. Seeing that at least one copy of these well discussed books reaches the library would be appreciated by others in the community.

Our recent call for **Children's books** was answered with a number of nice ones in good condition. Thank you! We can use more! Especially in our new children's room on the first floor.

The **Western Fiction** section is looking a bit battered. Has anyone finished some westerns they wouldn't mind sharing? Those would be most welcome.

Travel books for exploring the U.S. or abroad are always great for updating our heavily used travel section.

"Local Interest" books, whether fiction, travel, nature guides, or other genres, are wonderful additions to our area so rich in talented writers and splendid things to explore.

Hardbacks and paperbacks are interchangeably welcome in the collection.

Fiction by popular and classic authors can be great reading for decades, so if you have a book or series

you like, please consider donating titles you have finished. Think of the output of an author like James Patterson. The library has many of his books, but gaps may remain. Regarding classic authors, nice copies of an author such as Mark Twain or Jane Austin are always welcomed by readers.

Please note, condition is important. Books need to be **clean**, usable and **intact**, not falling apart. Any books that are **moldy or smell of mold can't be added** to the shelves because mold will spread to adjacent books. If you are unsure about what to bring, we are always happy to sort the books.

Recent Changes in the Library

Since last summer, Cindy Tucker and her crew worked hard moving the **children's and young adult books** and media to the first floor room behind the fireplace. Efforts continue, but it is already a cozy, inviting space that includes not just the books for young readers, but fantasy and science fiction, books about animals, DVDs of movies, CDs of books, games, and puzzles.

Local interest books have joined the travel book section along the wall by the office.



Westerns have moved again to a more spacious and prominent place in the adult fiction room. You will also find a new spot nearby for large print books.

Fiction remains in its usual place, but has been shifted so all the books can be shelved.

Biographies still dominate the lower level library, along with books about sports, gardening, fitness,

collecting, and a few other subjects. I hope to try some reorganization of that area soon. New signs for all book relocations will be forthcoming in the new few weeks.

We invite you to come check out the changes in the library, and take a moment to find a good book to read!

CAN WE BREAK IT?

Larry Smith-WLRMS

Mahindra is a world leader in manufacturing heavy equipment and trucks. Our last two tractors were purchased from Mahindra. Based on their past experience with Wolf Laurel, they brought us a challenge. They have created a new, larger model of their tractor. They needed a test site to determine if there were any weaknesses in this new piece of equipment. The test site needed to provide a rugged realistic winter



test of this tractor. They have provided WLRMS the use of the tractor for one year at no cost. At the end of the year, they will repossess the tractor and examine the components to determine the integrity of the equipment. For WLRMS this represents a bargain in that we gain the use of a tractor at no cost for the year.

For Mahindra they have access to a free test site and a realistic test of the equipment.

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CHRISTMAS PARTY HONORS EBBS CHAPEL VFD FIRE FIGHTERS

The Upper Laurel Community Organization (ULCO) sponsored a Christmas party to honor the Ebbs Chapel Volunteer Fire Department (ECVFD) on December 4, 2017 at the Ebbs Chapel School Community Center. It was a wonderful evening of food, gifts and celebration with over 100 firefighters, EMTs, families and guests attending, served by members of the ULCO. Our community is fortunate to have this group of 30 dedicated fire fighters and EMTs.



The evening began with a welcome from Anthony Willis, president of the ECVFD Board. He praised the firefighters and thanked them for their dedicated service to our community during the past year. He also feels they are one of the top-rated Fire Departments. Josh Jenkins, Chief of the ECVFD for the last 18 years, thanked the community for sponsoring this special event. Jenkins complimented the firefighters saying, "I have lived here all my life and know the community and this department well and can say we have a very strong and dedicated department that I am extremely proud of." The department responded to 240 calls during the year. Jenkins then presented the Fire Fighter of the Year award

to Tyler Edwards, who was chosen by a closed ballot of the members of ECVFD. Clint English received his Firefighter 2 rating after having completed over 526 hours of training.

After a delicious dinner catered by High Ridge Adventures Outfitting and Barbecue, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus presented gifts to all the fire fighters' children, raffle gifts were distributed, and each fire fighter received a \$175 gift card.



This event was made possible by the generous donations of over \$6,500 from Wolf Laurel residents and Upper Laurel area churches.

The ECVFD Board consists of Anthony Willis, president, Bob Burns, vice-president, Terry Wyatt, treasurer and Deanna Ponder, Secretary. Board member Robert Briggs also attended. The ULCO volunteers included Marsha Boyd, Debbie and Glenn White, Dinah Carver, Connie Carver-Hall, Vinie Bailey, Billy Shook, Onie Roberts, Rick Crum, Sandy and Joe Hill, Carol Evans, Randy and Liz Benjamin, and Rich Ashley.

WLPOA ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTATION, JULY 29, 2017

By LORI Wyman Macaulay & LYNN Cagney

OPENING: LYNN, who has taken a seat in the audience, stands up to ask a question. LORI, seated at the head table, “volunteers” to address her concerns.

LYNN (stands up): Excuse me, may I ask a few questions of the board?

LORI: (looking at the other Board members for approval, then goes to the front of the room): Again? Didn't you do this last year?

LYNN: Yes, I did and I've learned a lot, but it feels like it's the same as in past years. I know we put in the pool heater, the pool liner, and...

LORI: AND, let's not forget the lawn maintenance service which runs a teeny bit over \$10,000 per year and our electric bills are over \$4,000, propane was \$2,500, and insurances which run about \$6,100. I know I mentioned this to you last year, but these are recurring expenses that don't go away!

LYNN: OK, OK, but that can't be our entire budget?

LORI: No, IT IS NOT. Let's start with the playground. I went to play on the playground and it is rickety over there. SEE what happened to me? (holds up foot with boot)

LYNN: OK, so what are we going to do about that since there are lots of kids and grandkids in the community and I know they use it for Kid's Camp?



Lynn Cagney



Lori Wyman

LORI: Well, the board has been discussing that. But right now there is only \$1,000 to use for playground purposes, whether that means to relocate it or fix the current playground.

LYNN: Well, \$1,000 isn't really going to make a dent in any of that!

LORI: EXACTLY!!!! But if we use the money we have PLUS volunteers to help with the fixing and relocating of it, we could make it work!

LYNN: Well, that sounds good to me, let's get started.

LORI: Well, I want you to know that the board is working on it.

LYNN: It looks pretty good around here to me. Is there anything else?

LORI (picks up a plunger): ARE YOU KIDDING??? We also have to figure out how to replace the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Oh yes. That little Area costs about \$7,500 per year to maintain so all of that sewer “stuff” doesn't leak into our beautiful creek. You know that

someone has to come out EVERY DAY to check on it to make sure that “STUFF” doesn't go where it isn't supposed to? Once we can replace it, to the tune of around \$20,000 to \$30,000, then we can BREATHE easy and we won't incur that approximately \$625 PLUS dollars a month expense for the company to come out and CHECK ON IT.

LYNN: Didn't you talk about this last year? Why hasn't anything been done?

LORI: WHAT??? Lots has been done. There's been testing, research, getting bids... This stuff doesn't happen overnight, ya know! As a matter of fact, the WLPOA and Roads and Security are working together on the WWTP situation.

LYNN: OK, sorry, sorry, sorry!! I was wondering about the tennis courts. They really look like they need to be cleaned or resurfaced.

LORI (pulls out a pressure washer wand): Well, I'm glad you brought that up! We just bought a pressure washer that we use to clean the tennis courts and it can be used on other projects around the Village.

LYNN: OK I'm starting to understand why we need so much money and where it's all going. I have one more question for you. I was downstairs in the activity room with my

grandson and he needed to use the bathroom. That men's room down there is less than desirable! Why hasn't anything been done about THAT?

LORI (holds up a roll of toilet paper): Well, funny you should mention that! At this very moment, we are in the process of getting new flooring and new fixtures and really sprucing up that men's room in the downstairs area of the Barn.

LYNN: You know, I always think I am up to date on the goings on around here, but it is amazing all of the "behind the scenes" work that goes on. Thank you, this has been informative.

LORI: You are most welcome. You know, you can keep up on the happenings around here several different ways. You are most welcome to attend out monthly POA Board meetings, on the 2nd Friday of each month at 10 AM. OR you can read the TOP OF THE BALD quarterly newsletter. OR the Wolf Laurel POA website which is www.wolflaurelpoa.com, or even the announcement board as you drive in the front gate. AND you should be getting emails from

us with everything that is going on. So, you see, there are LOTS of ways to keep up on what is going on.

LYNN: I usually just glance at the emails, but I am really going to pay attention when they come in. Can you tell me if there's anything fun coming up?

LORI: WELL, as a matter of fact, this event is near and dear to my heart. Our Second Annual WOOFMINSTER event next Sunday, August 6th at 5 PM is open for everyone to enjoy. Please look for Flyers and emails for this event. Thank you for asking these questions. It is important that everyone knows were our WLPOA funds are going!!

LORI & LYNN (to the audience): AND THANK YOU!!!!



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WOLF LAUREL PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION - INCOME STATEMENT

January through December 2017

Jan - Dec 17

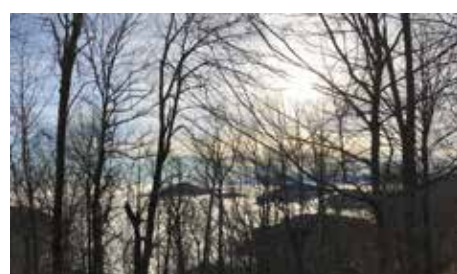
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
40000 · Initiation Fees	14,277
41000 · Membership Dues	218,075
42000 · Program Income	11,342
43000 · Events	14,703
44000 · Rental Income	1,295
45000 · Directory	62
49900 · Uncategorized Income	100
49999 · Merchandise for Donations	775
Total Income	260,629
Cost of Goods Sold	
52000 · Program Expense	9,600
53000 · Event Expense	13,489
Total COGS	23,089
Gross Profit	237,540
Expense	
IPN Fees	845
Merchant deposit fees	20
54000 · Merchandise Order Expense	496
54200 · Professional Services	4,403
54300 · Office Expenses	5,496
54400 · Utilities	17,815
54500 · Insurance Expense	10,104
54600 · Payroll Expense	104,288
54700 · Annual Meeting	27
54720 · Cleaning	2,715
54740 · Dues and Subscriptions	80
54750 · Education/Training	159
54760 · Landscape Maintenance	7,758
54780 · Taxes and Licenses	200
54810 · Supplies, Sm. Tools and Equip.	4,583
54820 · Pool Operations	8,374
54870 · Repairs & Maintenance - Other	27,734
54890 · Travel Expense/Mileage	2,567
54900 · Trout Pond Maintenance	1,343
54920 · Depreciation Expenses	13,104
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	10
Total Expense	212,121
Net Ordinary Income	25,419
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
60000 · Other Income	1,021
Total Other Income	1,021
Other Expense	
70000 · Other Expense	913
Total Other Expense	913
Net Other Income	108
Net Income	25,527

WOLF LAUREL PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION - FYE BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2017

	<u>Dec 31, 17</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Bank	
10100 · Business Checking - 0478	13,979
10210 · Money Market - 0764	51,761
10500 · CD - 6937	25,816
10600 · Petty Cash	100
Total 10000 · Bank	<u>91,656</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>91,656</u>
Accounts Receivable	
11000 · Accounts Receivable	1,602
11100 · Accounts Receivable-Non Member	1,043
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>2,645</u>
Other Current Assets	
12000 · Prepaid Insurance	5,175
13000 · Undeposited Funds	560
Total Other Current Assets	<u>5,735</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>100,036</u>
Fixed Assets	
14000 · Property, Plant and Equipment	
14100 · Furniture and Fixtures	34,433
14200 · Buildings - Community Center	102,995
14300 · Buildings and Other	216,303
14400 · Land	383,378
14500 · Accumulated Depreciation	-86,451
Total 14000 · Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>650,658</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>650,658</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>750,694</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	387
Total Accounts Payable	<u>387</u>
Credit Cards	
20125 · ASB Credit Card	252
Total Credit Cards	<u>252</u>
Other Current Liabilities	
20100 · Payroll Tax Liabilities	2,007
20200 · Lifetime Memberships - Current	26,250
20300 · Hope Fund	1,100
20310 · Meditation Chapel/Garden	150
20320 · Village Beautification	314
20340 · Sponsored Membership Fee	9,250
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>39,071</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>39,710</u>
Long Term Liabilities	
21300 · Lifetime Memberships- Long Term	19,400
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>19,400</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>59,110</u>
Equity	
30000 · Paid In Capital	321,450
31000 · Paid In Contrl. - Naming Rights	62,500
32000 · Retained Earnings	92,078
32001 · Unrestricted Net Assets	190,029
Net Income	25,529
Total Equity	<u>691,586</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>750,696</u>

WINTER 2017 - 2018



BLASTS FROM THE PAST: TIDBITS FROM EARLY WOLF LAUREL NEWSLETTERS

In the summer 2017 edition of the TOP OF THE BALD, excerpts from August 1986 to September 1988 editions of Wolf Laurel Newsletters were presented. Here are some items of interest in newsletters from 1989, replicated exactly as printed.

May, 1989, Page 1, #1 FRIDAY NIGHTERS

The Friday Nighters under the capable administration of Sheila Slater will continue all summer, and as Blue Mt. is going to be under construction at the top of the mountain, the Wolf Laurel Property Owners, under their agreement with Bald Mt., has made arrangements with Bald Mt. Development Corporation for Bald Mt. to host the Friday Nighters down in the barn. Bald Mt. has agreed to fix the barn up to accommodate us this summer. Thanks, Frank Denise.

May, 1989, Page 2, #9 TOP OF THE BALD (still true today)

Just a statement of policy as to the 'Top of the Bald'. Unless it is absolutely necessary, the policy of this newsletter is to not get involved in anything that is controversial or argumentative. This is a fun newsletter for the pleasure of all of the members of the WLPOA, and anything to do with the problems, agreements or disagreements between the WLPOA and anyone else will be handled by separate letters to the Association members or in our two yearly meetings.

May, 1989, Page 9 VERY IMPORTANT TRIVIA, "Bunk"

For you newcomers to North Carolina for the first time, they do sometimes speak a little different language than us flat-landers. In fact, the word that we use almost all over the United States originated right here in this area. The word is "bunk", which is talk for talks' sake, and was coined in 1820 as "buncombe" by Representative Felix Walker of Buncombe County, North Carolina (Asheville). During the discussion of the Missouri Compromise, Representative Walker delivered a long speech unrelated to the topic at hand. Asked what he said, he replied "I was just talking for Buncombe". Later, shortened to the word known as "bunk".

May 1989, Page 9, OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE HAVE PLENTY OF EXTRA DIRECTORIES, \$7.50 EACH (FOR MEMBERS ONLY)

June, 1989, Page 1, NEW SECURITY PROGRAM

Wolf Laurel Security, Inc., Bald Mt. Development Corporation and you Property Owners Association have developed a new security system. This is absolutely necessary, as we have three new gate guards, so many new construction people, and so many new property owners and visitors coming in through the gate that it is no longer possible for our gate guards to control security. In fact, we do not have security, we have gate guards. When Blue Mt. builds a new gate and puts in the electronic gate and we start getting additional monies from their people who buy the Villas, etc. we will have to put in an interim program and ask the cooperation of all property owners...Also, we need your contributions towards security at \$60 per lot or \$240 per home to keep security running, as there is no source of funding, at this present time, so please send in your security contribution as there is not enough money to keep the gate guards going for the rest of the year.

June, 1989, Page 6, GENERAL INFORMATION

Would you believe that we have some real scholars around Wolf Laurel and Madison County? Paula Hamlin, the daughter of 'Running Bare' Paul Hamlin at the gate, won a scholarship for \$20,000 for four years of college plus a trip to Europe...Also, Judy Eatmon's daughter Susan has her name down on the same scholarship. Judy is a nice young lady that does the books and sends you all the bills and works upstairs in the office for BMDC...Irving and Bunny Washington attended the graduation of these two girls and wrote the newspaper a nice article of this great experience.

June, 1989, Page 11, WOLF LAUREL PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION FINANCES

Our financial needs will be met for this year, by the skin of our teeth, but due to the lack of funds we have had trouble keeping you informed of all of the fast-moving events occurring in Wolf Laurel, as we did not have the money for postage and printing. We did inform the members that attended the Spring meeting and intend

to get more information out at the Annual meeting. The \$25 annual dues only brings in approximately \$7000 a year, and we have fixed expenses for building rent, utilities, salary for a part-time secretary, postage, hall rental and rental chairs for Annual and Spring meetings, telephone bills, printing and copying paper, etc. etc. All of these eat up our \$25 dues, and we do not have much left over to keep our members informed. We would very much like to issue a periodic newsletter, separate from "Top of the Bald" newspaper, to keep our members informed as to the activities of the developers, the stand we will take on roads and security, and the actions of politicians, etc. concerning Wolf Laurel.

July, 1989, Page 2-3, FIREWORKS [first] DISPLAY

Someone up there likes us, in that the fireworks display that went on Saturday July 1, took place on a beautiful night with over 300 people in attendance. This spectacular display was supervised by Boom Boom Candler, Brent Waddell and Al Frierson. It was a great display and then the rain started the next day and rained through the entire fourth weekend. Let's let the Property Owners make this an annual event. Our special thanks to John Haynie and Sheila Slater for furnishing the money to buy the fireworks out of the Property Owners' social fund. Next year we will ask for twice as much money and have twice a good a display.

July, 1989, Page 3, CAN YOU IMAGINE? Introduction of Biltmore Estates Deer

Bob Ware, who has an impeccable reputation for integrity, and this can be verified by his wife, Gene, picked up their Bronco at the motel and were driving up McKinney Gap and right about at #10 green in the middle of the road there was a deer standing. This is one of the many sightings that we have had of deer lately and probably the first to have come this close to the center of Wolf Laurel in the last 10 or 12 years. This is due to the release of some 12 to 13 hundred deer from the Biltmore Estates up around Bald Mt. two to three years ago. A lot of them have been killed by poachers, but the Game Department has arrested many, many people poaching there and they are beginning to come back in our area. This is great.

July, 1989, Page 10, LATE BREAKING BULLETIN

They are going to start tearing down the motel on Monday, July 10 and the WLPOA was in danger of not having a place to hold their Annual Meeting on the 29th.

Your president was able to talk to the contractor, and he agreed to leave the Laurel Room intact until after our meeting, but it is going to be a little inconvenient, as there probably won't be any water or restroom facilities, but we will have electricity in the meeting room. Where we go after this is going to have to be decided next winter. For your further information, he has until August 21 to completely destroy the motel, and the final complete destruction will be by the Ebbs Chapel Fire Department. They are going to take two days to set it on fire, put it out, and finally burn it down. This will be worth seeing and we will try to advise everyone in August when the big fire is going to happen.

August, 1989, Page 1, NEW PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS

The following were elected Directors at the Annual Meeting of the 29th and will serve two years: Fred Baker, Frank Bennett, Ray Burrows, Rip Dobbins, Eve Nichols, and Do Skypek. These, along with holdover Directors Joe Earman, Bo Feasel, Dean Berkley [President], Les Churchill and Peggy Hobson, give a cross-section of residents who will carry the Association forward and make it even greater than it is today. At the same meeting, Ray Burrows was reelected Vice-President, Jeanne Burrows was reelected Secretary and Margaret Pariseau was reelected Treasurer.

September 1989, Page 2, WOLF LAUREL ROAD

For those of you who haven't been up here and those of you up here who want to know, here is what is going to happen to the paved Wolf Laurel Road from the top of the mountain down past the gate.

A new gate house will be built soon with a property owners gate, a non-property owners gate, and an exit gate. All gates will have raised arms and be remote-controlled by the gate guard. Walnut Mt. Ventures has a signed agreement with BMDC to keep the Wolf Laurel Road under repair, they have patched pot holes, and are working hard to keep it repaired, and are putting fill dirt in on the steep sides and will make some of the curves more gentle later on. They will maintain the road until their heavy construction equipment has finished using it, and they have to completely repave and redo the road commencing before the end of the year 1990. It will be a new road when they finish. For your information, when it reaches the top of the mountain in front of the Restaurant the new road now turns right and goes over in front of the Pro

Shop and back towards the intersection of Oakridge Lane. The present road at the top of the mountain is closed, and that will be the location of the new Blue Mt. Country Club, looking back east over that wonderful view. The Club House will be built right smack in the middle of what used to be the road to the Motel.

September 1989, Page 5, THIS AND THAT, Third Annual Benefit Golf Tournament

Later, nearly everyone in Wolf Laurel was involved in some fashion with the Third Annual Benefit Golf Tournament. It was a huge success. Despite a few raindrops late in the day, early all the golfers finished and retreated to the Ski Lodge for the king-sized spread of delicious hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. Following the auction, Wil and Silvia Coudriet, assisted by George Brown and many ladies of Wolf Laurel,

provided a gourmet dinner for several hundred people. In the end, sufficient funds were generated to provide Hospice of Madison and the Cancer Unit of Memorial Mission Hospital with \$14,500 each.

September 1989, Page 5, THIS AND THAT, Golf Course Improvements

We have watched with delight the changes and modifications to the golf course. A big hit with the golfing crowd was the blacktopping of the cart paths. Additionally, we'll finally have large and level tees – including ladies' tees!! Also impressive is the large number of rock walls being constructed on the course. Finally, we'll have to practice our bunker shots this winter so that next Spring we can cope with the sand traps on our course.



The new Pro Shop houses the fifty golf carts and the Mountain Craft Shop, is located near No. 1 tee.



This 20 room motel adds convenience to Wolf Laurel accommodations. Construction on 50 additional rooms is underway. It is located near the Restaurant and Pro Shop.



Cuisine of the Wolf Laurel Restaurant caters to golfers, hikers and casual visitors seven days each week.

Page 76, **In the Shadow of the Bald**, Pat Alderman, © Bald Mountain Development Corporation, 1972.

2018

JANUARY

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