THE LINK

May 2008

NEWSLETTER OF THE MOUNTAIN HOMESTEADERS ASSOCIATION

Editor—Marti Szczur

HELP! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for RESCUE SQUAD !

by Judy Meincke

We as Americans have become accustomed to someone coming to our aid whenever we call for help. Whether we feel sudden chest pain, have an injury or have fallen and can't get up (are we really getting that old?), all we have to do is dial 911 and someone shows up at our door. We here in Wintergreen are especially fortunate to have experienced medics on staff 24 hours a day to answer our calls for help.

Unfortunately, no matter how good the medic, he or she cannot be of much help without others to support them. Someone has to drive the ambulance, someone has to take less serious patients to the hospital and free up the professional staff so they are here for fires or more serious rescue cases. That's where volunteers come in.

As you are probably aware, we have a staff of volunteer drivers and EMTs made up of your friends and neighbors who assist our medics. Over the past year we have lost a number of long time volunteer and are now finding that at times we are dangerously low on staffing. When this occurs we either have to pay for hired help or do without and hope there are no calls during the uncovered shifts.

Being a rescue squad volunteer is fun and rewarding. All it takes is the ability to lift 50 pounds, a clean driving record and a minimum of 24 hours a month of your time. Uniforms, equipment and training are all provided. If you think you might be interested, call 325-9270 or speak to any of the current volunteers to learn more.

Your rescue squad is there to answer your calls for help.

[Editor Note: Judy Meincke is the Wintergreen Valley Rescue Squad volunteer with the complex job of scheduling all the volunteers' tours of duty.]

Hooray to our Mountain SQUAD—Martha Misker (EMT), Stu Harvey, Jack Daly (EMT), Horace Brady, and John Claman. *Not in photo, but always on duty when assigned: Woody Graf, Ken Nelson, David Orphan, and Mike Arrowwood.*

Did You Know that the World's Largest Medical Library is a Good Resource for Health Info?

At the April Mountain Woman monthly meeting , Marti Szczur gave a demo of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Library of Medicine's (NLM) website. This website is frequently an unknown, yet gem of a resource, for authoritative and useful health information. Check it out, if you're needing medical information for yourself or your family and friends. Here are some useful links to get you started...

http://www.nlm.nih.gov — NLM Home Page

http://medlineplus.gov — MedlinePlus has over 740 health topics and drug information

http://nihseniorhealth.gov — NIH Senior Health provides information for older adults

YOUR 2008 MHA BOARD

Stu Harvey	President 325-7171 stuartharvey@alum.mit.edu
Horace Brady	VP 325-7930 bradywareagle@aol.com
Ray Allen	Secretary 703-569-3946 325-7834 raygnav@aol.com
Allan Blum	Treasurer 325-9133 allan_blum@yahoo.com
Steve Marianella	Membership 325-2281 smsales1@aol.com
Joanne White	Social Chairman 325-7232 jwhite103@hotmail.com
	Social Committee: Joyce Claman, Horace Brady, Sharon Kincel, Steve Marianella
John Armel	325-6772 jlatwg@aol.com
Mary Ellen Condon Rall	325-7708 condonrall1@verizon.net
Sylvia Shenk	703-759-2434 325-7601 s2shenk@cox.net
Shirley Thomas	434-239-1592 325-9076 stt32ski@aol.com
Marti Szczur	LINK editor 325-7164 szczurmar@aol.com

Join these Mountain Activities ...

Mahjong meets Mondays at 10:00 am. Contact: Susan Capell on 361-2435.

Saturday Evening Bridge meets the second or third Saturday of the month, at 7:30 pm. Contact: Kate McIntire on 325-7073.

Mountain Women meetings are held the second Friday of each month at 10:00 am. Roadrunners are welcome! Contact: Martha Misker on 325-7585.

The Mountain Women Gardeners meet every third Friday at various member's homes. Contact: Vera Jones on 325-9256.

The Mountain Women Book Group meets the Monday after the Mountain Women meeting. Contact: Barbara Porter on 325-7314.

The Mountain Women Craft Group meets on the 4th Friday of each month. Contact: Sarah Scott on 325-7375.

Book Clubs: Two book clubs meet each month on Tues evenings. Contacts: Arlo Croxall on 361-0045 or Elaine Davis on 361-1936.

The Green Winners is an investment club that meets the first Tuesday of each month, in the afternoon. Contact: Diane Crannis on dibooks@aol.com.

President's Corner

This month is a simple request to keep your email address current with Homesteaders. As stated in a previous LINK, we are planning to deliver the LINK and all event notifications by email. Obviously, this saves postage and paper.

We understand that a number of Homesteaders do not have email or prefer to receive paper copies, thus we plan to deliver them as requested.

However, the majority of you use email regularly, but every one of our communications involves a number of "bounces", meaning the message did not get through. To avoid this, please put my email (stuartharvey@alum.mit.edu) in your address book, so our messages will not be categorized as spam; secondarily, please let me know if you change your email.

Thanks,
Stu Harvey

Editor's Note

Well, Joe Spouse and I survived our first winter living full-time on the mountain, and it was pretty easy … okay, so it was a mild winter, but we did have a few good windy days which rattled the house and blew the cat across the street (well, almost.)

Big news for me this past quarter was that my first children's book, Dogs of a Different Collar, was published, and I want to thank all my mountain friends, who have purchased copies for grandkids and young-at-hearts. Plus, several local places (e.g., TWNF, Blackrock Market) have been kind enough to provide copies for sale. Since our Sadie Dog has her picture on the book's cover, she has been feeling quite the celebrity … but I have put my foot down about getting her hair coifed and toe nails painted at the Spa.

I continue to be amazed at the uniqueness of the mountain views each day, and watching the daily greening of the spring trees and plants sharpens my awareness of how lucky I am to experience Wintergreen as my home.

Happy Spring to All!

Marti

Summer 2008

Mountain Homesteaders Activities

Make Your Plans and Reservations !!!!!

For all events … space is limited to 80 Mountain Homesteaders due to space limitations at Chestnut Springs Park.

Make a **check (if appropriate) payable to: Mountain Homesteaders Assoc**. (MHA)

RSVP to Horace Brady, RR 1 Box 616, Roseland, VA 22967 or 325-7930 or bradywareagle@aol.com

(Reminder: When RSVPing, include names of attendees (for making name tags), your address and phone #)

June 7th —Shrimp Fest (members only, please)

Where: Chestnut Springs Park and Pool **When**: 5 - 8pm **How Much?** $20 per person

Menu: Shrimp, Potato Salad, Salad, Dessert, Beer and Soft Drinks provided

RESERVATION DEADLINE: May 31st

July 4th — Independence Day Covered Dish Supper (members and guests welcome)

Where: Chestnut Springs Park Pool **When**: 5 :30 pm **How Much?** No cost, but be sure to RSVP

Bring Your Favorite Covered Dish and BYOB. Lemonade and Iced Tea provided

RESERVATION DEADLINE: June 27th

August 9th — Annual Picnic (members only, please)

Where: Chestnut Springs Park Pool **When**: 5 :30 pm **How Much?** No cost, but be sure to RSVP

Good picnic fare (TBD later) and BYOB. Soft Drinks provided

RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 2nd

Sept. 6th — Lobster Fest (members only, please)

Where: Chestnut Springs Park Pool **When**: 5 :30 pm **How Much?** $25 per person

Menu: Fresh lobster, potato salad, salad, rolls, dessert. Wine and Soft Drinks provided

RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 30th

Coming later in 2008: Sept. 27th — Oktoberfest and Dec. 6th — Annual Holiday

ROADRUNNERS

by Sylvia Shenk

Theatrical Magic in Nellysford

I have uncovered yet another treasure just past the seemingly untouched, surprisingly enriched town of Nellysford, named if you remember for the first Postmistress of the town, Nellie Garrett Martin. This time, one must head down route 151 to Rockfish School Lane in Afton to the **Rockfish Community Center**, where an unobtrusive, dated building has come alive with theater and cabaret music since October, 2005, when the **Earl Hamner Jr. Theater** opened its doors to the public.

If you like theater, you will be truly amazed by the professional excellence, the sophisticated, current exploration of reality and yet the firm grounding of traditional values that are combined in this charming, intimate setting. This is immediately evident in the choice of the name of the theater. **Earl Hamner,** the consummate storyteller, is the creator of *The Waltons* as well as such screenplays as *Charlotte's Web* and scripts for the television classics *The Twilight Zone* and *Falcon Crest*. **Earl Hamner,** who now resides in Studio City, California, was originally from Virginia, and was known to both of the artistic directors of the Hamner Theater. His goal as a storyteller was "that posterity may know of an age and a people whose legacy has not, through silence, been permitted to pass away as if a dream." **Peter Coy** and **Boomie Pedersen** have continued this dream, if you will, by bringing community together to have a shared experience and shed new light on the vision of reality. They themselves share an absolute passion for playwriting and dramatic production.

These two talented directors were brought together by a common friend and lighting designer, **Larry Hugo**, great grandson of **Victor Hugo**. For any history buffs out there, and I'll include myself, that adds a serendipitous dimension to the drama of the place. **Peter Coy** was a theater major at U. VA. where he also attended law school. He taught drama, English and theater arts at Woodbury Forest, also in Virginia. But the theater lured him up to New York, where he attended graduate school for the arts at NY State. And then he even dropped out of the theater all together for some farming in New York. Fortunately for us, he returned to Virginia, Nelson County in particular, and decided to try his hand at opening a theater. He and **Boomie Pedersen** received a grant from the **Virgina Commission for the Arts** to open the theater at the Rockfish Community Center. **Boomie,** a mother of six, was a scholarship dancer with the Joffrey Ballet, majored in English, theater, and dance at Princeton University, and has directed theater at the Live Arts in Charlottesville as well as elsewhere. So, you see that they bring much dramatic experience and training to this abode of theatrical magic.

The audience at the Hamner is primarily local, from Nelson and Augusta Counties, although the variety of residents at our Wintergreen Community has offered the opportunity to expand their horizons. This nonprofit theater needs the support of the community and it, in turn, considers itself fortunate to be able to give back to the community through the excellence of its productions. The size of the theater lends itself to intimacy, and the inexpensive tickets of $10.00 allows the theater to be available to all. The Hamner is dedicated to producing new and newly-adapted plays as well as to developing new work for the theater. In the summer, they hold an annual **Earl Hamner Playwrights Conference** where 8-10 playwrights are in residence for three weeks. **Peter Coy** has written about 25-30 plays, one of which, *A House in the Country,* won the **Helen Hayes Award for the Outstanding New Play in the DC area in 2001.** The theater also does joint production of professional theater with other theaters in the area such as the **Charter Theater** in DC.

To date, I have seen two productions at the Hamner, *I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running* by Robert Anderson, a hilarious set of four comedies, and *Am I Black Enough Yet?*, an original play by Clinton A. Johnson developed in part at the Earl Hamner Playwrights Conference. The latter of these two plays presents a timely and appropriate discussion of race in our country. Both of these productions "wowed me". I love theater, and I pride myself on attending some of the best in the DC area regularly including Arena Stage, Olney Theater, and the Shakespeare Theater. But our own Nellysford/Afton can compete with any of them for excellence. I encourage you to wind your way down the mountain to experience one of these productions or perhaps for an evening of music, food, and wine at one of the **Hamner's Cabaret Performances.** I can assure you that you won't regret your escapade.

Looking for a few roving reporters!

Do you have an idea for a column or article for the LINK and like to write? How about a 'People News on the Mountain' column with updates on what Homesteaders are up to … vacationing, volunteering, crafting, writing, whatevering? Or a series on Artists on the Mountain? Other ideas? If you are interested, give me a call or email.

Thanks, Marti Szczur
LINK editor, (325-7164, szczurmar@aol.com)

April Days and the Coming Flowers

by Joan Stemmler

All through April on the mountain, fog lifted and descended and incredibly beautiful days came and went. By April 25th, the service berry tree by my window filled with angular blooms; the red leaves only unfold after the long, white flower petals open wide. All of its relatives punctuated the woods with white, their thirty feet height sparkling out among the dark and leafless larger trees. After the rosy sky of dawn faded, a pale yellow light showed behind the roof of the ridge house on Cooper's Vantage, gleaming below a mauve cloud. And, as I watched, without feeling one sense of motion, the earth rotated a degree more and revealed the orb of the sun in the east. The woods brightened; the backdrop of the service berries gained the colors of reddish maples, chartreuse greens of the occasional tulip poplar tree, the thickening yellow catkins of the black birch. The two and a half inches of rain that had fallen washed clean the deep rich green leaves of the rhododendrons and mountain laurels, and turned the path mosses a velvety emerald green.

Some of the spring ephemerals have already come and gone: bloodroot, round leafed yellow violets, spring beauties, cut-leafed toothwort, and star chickweed. Soon after come the blue violets, trillium, bellworts, meadow-rues, wood anemones, wild geranium, Allegheny buttercups, Solomon's seal, smooth rock cress, cinquefoil, rosy twisted stalk, -- nature's whole panoply of wildflowers that thrive before the leaves unfold in early summer. Around our streams, the massed tiny yellow flowers of the spice bush brighten the gray woods. In early May, the smaller trees, dogwoods, hop-hornbeams, striped maples, and the fringe trees will flower, and by June, buds of the rhododendron, laurels, and blueberries will open.

Finally, in June the Nature Preserve will harbor the flowers of the Jack (and Jill)-in-the-Pulpits, golden ragwort, tasselrue, wild sarsaparilla, plume lily, white Clintonia, honewort, heart-leafed Alexander, meadow parsnip, Bowman's root and wild yam root. Flowers will bloom on many shrubs: Allegheny minnie-bushes, azaleas, winterberries, and maple-leafed viburnum. On the dry sunnier mountain slopes, some of these plants will also bloom but more than likely you'll be able to see the whites of fly-poison, Allegheny blackberries, wild stonecrop, Virginia waterleaf, as well as the yellows of the pimpernel and whorled loosestrife. The bluets, blue-eyed grass, pasture roses, columbines, wild licorice, spiderwort and the brown hare figwort will all be waiting for you.

I've mentioned this before, but now is the time to bend down and pull from the damp, cold, yielding April earth handfuls of roots of the invasive non-natives that can crowd out the wildflowers. Dandelions, plantains, the long strong roots of crown vetch, the matted tangles of Japanese stilt grass, the spreading garlic mustards and invasive cresses. Their hardiness and early green leaves make it easy to spot them in the brown leaf litter. Later in the spring, I will sow wildflower seeds in the loosened soil. To quote my gardening friend in Pennsylvania, pull a weed, plant a flower.

Special Fundraising Event for Tuckahoe Club House

May 19th, 7:30pm, Tuckahoe Club House

Stoney Creek resident **Marshall Faintich** has been taking photographs of Wintergreen wildlife since December 2006. He has taken more than 23,000 photographs here, and has captured almost 100 species of birds with his camera. Last February, Marshall gave an hour-long photographic presentation of the birds of Wintergreen at the Nature Foundation. The event was very popular and Marshall has been kind enough to agree to present an updated version on May 19th. The entry fee is $10 per person and all proceeds will be used for the Tuckahoe building fund.

Mark your calendars and be sure to attend.

WILD BEARS GONE DOMESTIC

On April 18th and 21st of this year, the Wintergreen Police Department responded to its first two Black-Bear complaints of the year. The bears were shopping for food around the dumpsters; the first sighting was late at night and the second was just before sunrise. In 2007, Wintergreen police officers responded to 130 Bear complaints within the mountain resort community. Thirty of these incidents involved bears that had entered residences, which were occupied by home owners or guests in most instances. Fortunately, the bears were not interested in the occupants, for they just wanted to raid the kitchen areas for food.

What caused the bear intrusions? We did in part, the citizens of the community. How? By not securing trash, grills, bird feeders, pet food, windows and doors, to name a few. Nature was the other culprit by not providing enough feeding vegetation for the bears, due to late freezes in the spring of the year. This article is a reminder to all of us to simply do the right things. I believe we can all work together to help prevent bear intrusions and to educate others, by following a few basic rules as outlined below.

If you observe a bear on your property or in the community, back away slowly and calmly to a safe area and call 911. Speak in a peaceful voice to alert the bear that you are human being, and do not stare at the animal. Prevent doing anything that could entice or agitate the bear. The following tips (in-part) are offered by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and can be found on their website at: http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/bear/:

> Secure your garbage and take it to the dumpsters frequently, and fasten the latches and chains on the dumpsters. Let's work together to help make the dumpsters bear-proof.
>
> Remove birdfeeders spring through fall. Remember, the bears are now active. Last year, the bear complaints were both day and night, April through November.
>
> Pick-up uneaten pet food, and clean outdoor cooking grills after each use.
>
> Lastly, and this is our ***strong*** recommendation, Secure your windows and doors always this time of the year. This includes doors leading from the deck, regardless of the height from the ground, for bears are excellent climbers. Numerous 2007 complaints consisted of bears entering through opened, screened windows and doors (latched and unlatched).

Thank you for your interest in this article, and we appreciate your patience and understanding as our experienced officers appropriately deal with the local bear population. If the Wintergreen Police Department can assist you in any way, feel free to give us a call at our dispatch center (gatehouse) at 434-325-1106 or call 911 if you have an emergency.

Steve Southworth, Investigator
Wintergreen Police Department

Tuckahoe Club House Update

Our new club house is becoming very popular! There are currently 9 resident organizations/clubs using the facility one or more times every week and the Fire Department and Rescue Squad use it several times a month for training and meetings. Regular usage is well over twenty hours per week.

The good news is that we definitely need and use our club house, the bad news is that it is not big enough for many of our events. We recently have had to schedule events at other facilities outside of Wintergreen in order to accommodate our expanding community. Long term plans for Tuckahoe include expansion, but this requires funding.

We are working on ways to convert Tuckahoe to a 501c (3), so that fundraising and donations will become more feasible. In the meantime, we will have small fundraising events, starting with a presentation on May19 at 7:30pm in the Tuckahoe club house. Marshall Faintich will present some of the wonderful photos he has taken of birds at Wintergreen. Check out details in article on page five.

We do have some wonderful improvements in the works for the short term. The fundraising committee for Tuckahoe raised enough money last year to pay for almost half of the cost of a 25' x 40' patio (we will use fundraising events to pay for remainder). The patio will be placed outside of the kitchen and is being sized so that long term it could be the foundation for a nice addition. In the meantime, we will place a tent over the patio for special events. We are also investigating ways to expand/improve the kitchen which currently does not facilitate preparing food for a large crowd.

If you haven't visited the library at Tuckahoe, be sure to stop in. There is a wonderful selection of books and check out is based on the honor system. Be sure to come in the side entrance, so you do not disturb the children during school hours.

If you have questions or ideas for Tuckahoe, contact Mary Wolf at 361-0213. To schedule an event, contact Theresa Harris at 325-8530.

Blue Ridge Medical Center Reports a Successful Fund-Raiser

Peggy Whitehead, Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Medical Center announced that the 10th annual *Evening of Art, Music & Cuisine*, sponsored by Spruce Creek Gallery was a gratifying success. [Photo is of Peggy beside event poster.]

This year, for the first time, the event showcased five talented artists-craftspeople who demonstrated their creative skills on-site. Also, for the first time, the Honeydew Drops, a young, up-and-coming folk duet from Scottsville, joined veteran performers R.W. & Sherri Smith and Mongrel to entertain the crowd, estimated at more than 300 people.

More than 100 items were up for bids in the silent auction and, in addition to the paintings, sculpture and pottery by the five in-person artists, the live auction, with Tommy Stafford as auctioneer, sold a whiskey-makers class and a catered, gourmet dinner for eight.

All proceeds from the event go to help support the medical center's Rural Health Outreach Program, which brings health care services to the people of Nelson and Amherst Counties and nearby areas through a wide range of outreach programs.

Charles "Flick" Flickinger, sculptor, demonstrating his skill during the evening event.

Sports in Motion Junior Open Charity Tennis Tournament

On March 21-23 Wintergreen Tennis hosted a charity tennis tournament for some of our local junior tennis players. Twenty-four young tennis players from Augusta County, Charlottesville, as well as members of Wintergreen participated in the event. The 1st Annual Sports in Motion Junior Open raised over $1600 through tournament entry fees, sponsorships, donations, and a tournament raffle. Tournament Director Jeff Ryman, our USTA Official Head Tennis Pro at Wintergreen, said, "The event was a great success, and I am very happy with the turnout for the first year. Hopefully the event will be a part of the calendar for Wintergreen Tennis for years to come."

Sports In Motion is an affiliate of Hearts In Motion, with has a mission to construct and develop programs to promote athletic activities for the underserved people of Guatemala. For more information about Hearts In Motion visit www.heartsinmotion.org. Jeff Ryman will be taking a trip to Guatemala this summer to work with Hearts In Motion and Sports In Motion. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please make checks payable to Hearts In Motions with Jeff Ryman specified on the check memo line. If you have any questions feel free to call him at 325-8235 or email at jryman@wintergreenresort.com.

From right to left: Addison Staples (Director of Sports In Motion), Mathew Disler, Emily Disler, Ursala Nelson, and Jeff Ryman.

Coming Soon … New County Recycling Rules Affect Wintergreen Resort

Nelson County has recently selected a new recycling facility which will change some of the recycling rules on the mountain. Your LINK Editor talked with Susan McSwain, the Nelson County Solid Waste/Recycling Coordinator, on May 9th and learned that the new rules are driven by economics. The most cost effective recycling comes from corrugated cardboard and metal food cans (which does not include aluminum foil or pie pans.) According to Susan, glass is no longer economically feasible to recycle. Luckily, glass is inert and does not pollute the land, water or air. Lidless EMPTY plastic containers with recycle numbers 1-**7** can now be recycled, as can paper (but corrugated cardboard and other paper must be separated.)

There is a complication on the mountain … space for recycling containers. Apparently, there is only room for two bins, so the County will be deciding which two types of recyclables to collect on the mountain. New containers and further clarification about what to recycle are in the works. Other recyclables can be dropped off at the Rockfish Valley facility (off of Rockfish School Lane) or other Nelson County Drop-off facilities. For more information about recycling locations, check out their website.

http://www.nelsoncounty.com/keepnelsonbeautiful/solidwaste

Wintergreen Nature Foundation
Field Studies Institute

Expressions of Nature

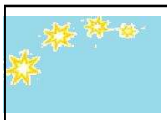
JUNE 14, 9 am - 3 pm
JUNE 15, 9 am - 12 pm

$120 members, $150 non-members
Breakfast and lunch provided

Experience a weekend of expressing the beauty and wonder of nature through art. Enjoy workshops at the Trillium House conducted by reknown local artists.

June 14th (9 AM - 3 PM)
Painting Green Leaves
Lara Call Gastinger, Chief Illustrator of the Flora Virginia Project, will teach the basics of how to paint with watercolors a simple yet challenging subject, such as a green leaf. Learn to mix greens, apply layers and keenly observe leaf venation and texture. Learning how to realistically paint a green leaf will add important observation and technical painting skills to the budding botanical artist and student.

June 15th (9 AM - 12 PM)
Nature Journaling
Nature Journalist *Rhonda Roebuck* will discuss techniques for documenting and displaying your experiences with nature. This fun half day workshop will use nature's own inspiration to develop your creativity.



Rescheduled Star Evening May 16th

A starry night program has been rescheduled for May 16 with rain date of May 17. The site will be the big field at Spruce Creek park.

The Charlottesville Astronomical Society (CAS) has really been working hard to put together a great program. It will be like bringing the education and show-and-tell they do at Fan Mountain and at the McCormick Observatory right to our back yards. This is the first time CAS and the local master naturalist chapter with our Rockfish Valley foundation are trying this.

It is free of charge and open to the public. In addition to presentations by CAS members and viewing with their equipment to observe the night sky, there will be a camp fire sing-a-long. This is a family event and picnics beforehand are welcome.

If any questions, contact Peter Agelasto at 361-2251.

Wintergreen Founders Vision Overlook Dedication

On May 10th, the overlook on Wintergreen Drive was renamed the Wintergreen Founders Vision Overlook. The Wintergreen Nature Foundation (TWNF) sponsored the Dedication event, which honored the individuals whose foresight and vision shaped this community, as well as the individuals who helped continue the vision to present day and beyond. Over 100 attendees gathered at the overlook for the Dedication with a follow-up reception at the Trillium House.

The Nature Foundation constructed an exhibit that will celebrate the insight of Wintergreen's Founders and will forever remind our community that the nature of Wintergreen is its greatest asset. This exhibit gives visitors an interpretive tour of the natural beauty found at Wintergreen amidst a garden of native wildflower, ferns and shrubs. The most generous TWNF donors over the years (donations over $100,000) are recognized with bronze medallions mounted in the railing. Donors, who have contributed $5,000 to $99,999 are recognized with etched bricks placed along the pathway. Many thanks to all the volunteers, who have helped in making the vision of the Founders Vision Overlook a reality.

The Dedication was preceded the night before with a reception for the Founders, and this event was hosted by TWNF Board of Directors. Many thanks to Anne and Dave Quanbeck for providing their lovely home for this reception.

Check out the new exhibit on one of your trips up the mountain!

Doug Coleman, TWNF Executive Director, welcomed the guests and introduced Don Faulkner, one of the early visionaries of Wintergreen.

Don Faulkner talking about the early days of Wintergreen with the other Founders looking on.

Golfers, Tennis Players and Hikers . . . Let's Make a Deal!

By Larry Alan Smith
Artistic & Executive Director of Wintergreen Performing Arts

As someone who regularly enjoys golf, tennis and leisurely hikes in the woods, I totally understand how intoxicating it can be trying to break 90 or beat that "A" player with the nasty serve. For that matter, what could be better than hiking a new trail? July is definitely "prime time" for the pleasures of summer. It is also "show time" for the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival. **Did you know that the 2008 Festival includes approximately 175 performances and events???**

So . . . here is the dilemma . . .

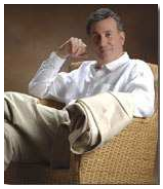
How can a person pursue his or her passion and still have time to enjoy the Festival?

Three thoughts come to mind . . .

- Can one really pursue these passions for 14 hours each day?
- It has been known to rain in July!
- Like it or not . . . the sun sets every evening!!

The ticket brochure for the 2008 Festival is being mailed in early May. If you need a copy for yourself or a friend, give us a call at (434) 325-8292. Next, study it carefully with your date book in hand. You may even want to consult *The Old Farmer's Almanac* for a little advance weather forecast.

If, after reviewing the ticket brochure, you don't have a sizeable list of must-see/must-do selections, I will be amazed. The 2008 Festival (***Old World, New World – Spain, France, Italy and the Americas***) includes orchestra concerts, jazz, chamber music, solo recitals, Italian films, two evenings of French cabaret, Italian Pops, two plays, a 5K walk/run event, wine tasting, a flamenco evening, cooking classes, Morning Seminars (Mondays-Fridays), a Bastille Day Celebration, a piano marathon, coffee concerts, Saturday Seminars, etc., etc., etc. We will even have a second tent this year … located adjacent to Lot 2.



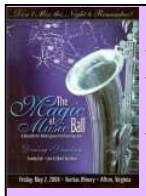
Alfred Savia, Italian Week Conductor

Wintergreeners . . . the 2008 WSMF will be the biggest thing to hit Nelson County this year. In fact, it promises to be one of the most significant cultural events in the Mid-Atlantic Region this summer. How many people have a full-blown performing arts festival in their backyard?

Armed with all of this information, you will want to phone family members and friends. Invite them to Wintergreen where they can play golf and tennis, hike on beautiful trails and experience top-notch cultural activities. **Every** Wintergreener should obtain a Festival Season Pass. At $350, it is the bargain of the summer. Visit our website at www.wintergreenperformingarts.org for detailed information. Tickets are available at our Online Box Office or by phoning (434) 325-8292.

To close, I want to issue a simple challenge. **IF** you read the entire ticket brochure and don't feel enthusiastically puffed-up with some serious community pride, I will personally come to your home, take your pulse and begin to sing the well-known Italian frottala, *What-sa Matta Whi Ewe?*

The month-long Festival begins on July 7th. **You CAN have it all!** Game – set – match!!



It was indeed a magical evening May 2 when friends and fans of WPA gathered at Veritas for the second **Magic of Music Ball**. The winery was adorned outside and in with flags of the countries featured in this summer's music festival, and Saddleback Hall sparkled with lighted trees lining its perimeter. Dressed in spring finery, the crowd enjoyed dinner and dancing – and raised more than $30,000 bidding on live and silent auction items and "Event Fair" offerings.

If you missed the ball, you can still purchase the remaining tickets to a Chili and Line Dancing Party on Oct. 9 and a Christmas Party at Skylark Farms on Dec. 6. In addition, an unlimited number of tickets are available for a Christmas Tea and Open House on Dec. 7. Call to make reservations or for more information, call 434.325.7164

Thanks to everyone for their support of Wintergreen Performing Arts!

UPCOMING EVENT at the Evans Center

Wintergreen Performing Arts Festival of Wines
Saturday, May 24, 2008
12 noon – 5:30 pm

Enjoy an afternoon of wine, jazz, light fare and the cool mountain air. Wine tasting from Virginia's very best wineries will be offered throughout the day.

Admission to the festival is $20, including a souvenir glass.

Check the website: http://www.wintergreenperformingarts.org/ or phone (434.325.7164) for more information.

THE LINK

Mountain Homesteaders Assn.
Route 1, Box 508
Roseland, VA 22967

2008 RENEWAL DUES

2008 WINTERGREEN MOUNTAIN HOMESTEADERS ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & DIRECTORY INFORMATION

FAMILY NAME _____ **FIRST NAMES** _____

NEW_____ **RENEWAL** _____

WG 911 ADDRESS _____ **WG PHONE** _____

HOME / MAILING ADDRESS _____

_____

HOME PHONE ( )_____ **FAX NUMBER** ( )_____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

_____ **Do not include our email in the directory**

_____ **Continue to send paper copy of LINK newsletter to my postal address***

_____ **If you live at Wintergreen part of the year, but also have another primary mailing address, check here and provide us with a calendar and 2nd address.**

Please complete the above and return with a check for $20 for one year to:**

Membership Chair, Wintergreen Mountain Homesteaders Association
Rt. 1, Box 508, Roseland, VA 22967

*** Starting in 2008, the LINK will be sent electronically to email address above. Saves money/time on printing, postage, labeling, sorting … leaves more money for parties!**

**** We are no longer accepting/processing three year memberships. Good idea, but accounting headache. MHA Board decided to KIS (Keep It Simple.)**