



MAY 2012

WPOA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WINTERGREEN
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

PATRICIA SIRAGUSA- PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2012 will be a busy year for WPOA. On April 6th we celebrated the reaccreditation of the Wintergreen Police Department – the only private police department in the Commonwealth to achieve this status. (See page 5 for more information.) In addition 2 new radio consoles donated by Nelson County were installed at the Gatehouse as part of the county's communication upgrades.

The repaving of Wintergreen Drive had previously been postponed until 2013 because of the heavy truck traffic anticipated with the proposed construction of the water tank on the mountain. The water tank project was cancelled due to the financial constraints of WPI so WPOA has decided to go ahead with the repaving in 2012. We will keep you informed about paving activities.

WPI is experiencing serious financial problems. Hank Thiess, his management team and the WPI board have been working very diligently to reduce spending and to find alternative revenue solutions. These efforts are continuing and WPI will inform owners when there is news to report.

WPI has reduced staffing, cut services in some areas and eliminated non-essential spending in order to preserve capital. As part of these reductions WPI cancelled \$100,000 of landscaping services previously contracted to WPOA landscaping. To date, they have not paid WPOA amenity fees due for the last quarter of 2011 or first quarter of 2012. Likewise they have not paid the second quarter 2012 assessment due on their commercial space.

If the current situation persists, it is possible that WPI will not be able to pay these annual dues or the remainder of the 2012 amenity fees. This loss of revenue to WPOA due from WPI for 2012 could result in approximately \$500,000 of lost income for us. For an organization known for its very "tight" budgeting, this approximate 10% reduction is of significant concern to WPOA.

WPOA is in sound financial condition despite this concern. We will continue to maintain all essential services to our homeowners – including dealing with unexpected snow in late April!

Russell Otis and the staff have accordingly addressed this potential shortfall by eliminating or postponing certain projects and planned purchases as well as modifying plans for summer hiring. We will continue to assess the financial impact of this continuing situation.

WPI has formed a Restructure Committee consisting of Hank Thiess, John Coy, Joe Ely and Ted Gary to assist in formulating transitional plans for Wintergreen. The committee requested WPOA's participation in its efforts. It is vitally important that the two organizations work together to attempt to find acceptable solutions to a complex set of problems facing the resort and its future.

Russell, David Orphan, Jack Daly and I have agreed to participate in the activities of the expanded committee. We will be meeting on a regular basis to address issues as they develop.

In the interim, we certainly hope that you will all continue to support WPI in any way possible. The resort management sincerely appreciates the support of the homeowners who utilize the resort facilities and help to provide much needed revenue.

Change is a good thing – even if somewhat painful at times. We look forward to spring and summer and continuing happy times at Wintergreen.

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Community Yard Sale
Saturday May 12, 2012, 8 A.M. to 1 P.M.
Tuckahoe Clubhouse

For the benefit of the WPOA Clubhouse Building Fund, and a raffle for Habitat for Humanity

Donations accepted Friday May 11, 10 AM to 3 PM at the Tuckahoe School.

Items accepted include furniture, household items, books, tools, artwork, sporting goods, and most any white elephant or treasure which has lost its appeal to hold a place in your home. Personal accessories such as shoes, hats, belts, scarves, purses and jewelry may be dropped off and left on Judy Winnenberg's porch at 431 Hunters Point. (no clothing please)

John Stone will be on hand to buy gold, coins or old jewelry.

Anyone may retain a space to sell their items, and the cost is \$20 for space on the lawn, or \$40 for a space on the deck under cover. Contact Tim Tinsley (361-2044) to reserve a space to sell your goods. Checks should be made payable to WPOA and mailed to Tim at 346 Hunters Point, Nellysford VA 22958.

So clean out your basement and attic! This is a great time to do some spring cleaning and clear some space and recycle all those items which are too good to throw away but someone may want.

After the sale, the remaining items will be donated to needy families in the area.

For further information, contact Pat Siragusa at 361-1601, or pasiragusa@aol.com



IMPORTANT BILL PAY UPDATE

WPOA ADDRESS CHANGE!

Our mailing address has changed. Effective immediately our new mailing address is:

**Wintergreen Property Owners Association, Inc.
88 Wintergreen Drive
Wintergreen Resort, Va. 22967-2162**

If you pay your assessment online, please make sure to update our address that you previously had on file.

ALSO

Your email address is important to us. Notifications of WPOA updates, newsletters and events are emailed to owners and posted to our website: www.wtgpoa.org

Please email us at wpoa@aol.com with your address and property location.

Thank you!

Pool Season has finally arrived !!!

We would like to remind you that the Chestnut Springs and the Rodes Farm pool's will be opening on Memorial Weekend Saturday, 26 May, 2012 at 10:00 am and are available to all property owners and their guests with the proper identification.

All owners can obtain their permanent pool passes through our office Monday through Friday by contacting Rhonda Proffitt at 434-325-8526 from 9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. If you have already obtained your WPOA customized passes, these passes are good for as long as you are a property owner at Wintergreen and there is no need to renew them. If your passes become lost, there will be a \$5.00 charge for a replacement.



We have added several BBQ grills and picnic tables around the Pavilion at Chestnut Springs and Rodes Farm. We have also purchased a gas grill for both facilities. There is a \$5.00 fee for the propane tanks. The lifeguards will have the propane tanks and utensils upon request.

If you are looking for all day entertainment Rodes Farm is the facility for your family. We not only have a covered pavilion, we also have a kiddie pool, adult swimming pool, two horseshoe pits, two sand volleyball courts, and a tennis court. Our tennis court was resurfaced 2 years ago. There is also a fishing pond with a deck (catch and release) for your enjoyment.

The Chestnut Springs/Rodes Farm pavilion's can be reserved for private functions. To reserve either pavilion, you can contact Ceason Morris at 434-325-8524 Monday through Friday from 9:00 am. to 5:00 pm.

Location of both pools:

The Chestnut Springs Pool and Pavilion/Playground: **94 Timber Camp Drive (MT)**
Rodes Farm Pool, Pavilion and Tennis Court: **1070 Rodes Farm Drive (VALLEY)**

Opened from:

Memorial Day through Labor Day

Pool Hours:

Open from 10 am to 6pm daily

Closed Thursday from 6 pm to Friday 10 am for maintenance



Attention

Lake Monocan is owned by Wintergreen Partner's Inc. For information please contact the Partners office at 434-325-8270 or the Lake's main office at 434-325-8181.
www.wintergreenresort.com



Wintergreen Fire Department “Burns the Note!”

The Wintergreen Fire Department just recently made their final \$50,000 payment on the ladder truck and then burned their loan documents at an open house held in Nellysford on April 21.

The total cost of the truck was \$760,000. It would appear as if a huge amount of debt was retired in just 4 years. The truth is, the department paid \$300,000 down when they ordered the truck. The remaining amount was financed at zero percent interest by the County of Nelson.

This huge milestone was the centerpiece of the open house, which drew approximately 200 people over a 4 hour time period. If you missed the open house we want you to know that every day is an open house. If you, your kids, or your grandkids would like to see the fire engines and ambulances, stop by.

“Low-Bid” Ambulance

Who would have ever thought the words “Low Bid” and “Mercedes Benz” would be used in the same sentence? It’s true, the Wintergreen Property Owners Volunteer Rescue Squad just took delivery of a Mercedes Benz van ambulance which cost only 50% as much as the Chevys which complete the fleet. The squad is hoping this 2-wheel drive unit can be utilized to give the patients a more comfortable ride to the hospital at a fraction of the cost. Since it is a 2 –wheel-drive ambulance, it certainly won’t be able to do everything the squad needs on every call. Not to worry, there will still be 3 4-wheel-drive units to pick up any slack.

In the long run, if this experiment works well, the squad hopes to recognize significant operating and capital cost savings.

Chief Curtis Sheets with his father Leon. Both are lifetime volunteers with the Staunton-Augusta Rescue Squad. Many of the property owners have gotten to know Leon (also a property owner) over the past 13 years.



The Wintergreen Volunteer Fire Department and The Wintergreen Property Owners Volunteer Rescue Squad are both non-profit organizations.

If you would like to mail in a tax-deductible donation, please make check out to WVFD or WPOVRS, and mail to:

P.O. Box 711
Nellysford, VA 22958

Police Department Reaccredited for 2nd Term

On April 6th, 2012 the Wintergreen Police Department was awarded re-accreditation for its 2nd four year term by Chief Tim Longo, Chairman of the Va. Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. The department remains the only private police agency in the Commonwealth to have achieved and maintained accreditation from the Commission. The accreditation process involves continuous monitoring of policies and procedures, patrol activities, dispatching and investigation methods to assure compliance with recognized professional standards across the state.

“Having been given the authority to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth, the County of Nelson and being entrusted by the owners of the Wintergreen community with that authority certainly warrants us to provide the best possible department with the highest standards, that is our goal” said Chief Stan Olah.



Presentation of Accreditation: (Left to Right) Stan Olah, Chief of Police; Theresa Harris, Deputy Director WPOA; Accreditation Program Manager Gary Dillon, Department of Criminal Justice Services; Pat Siragusa, President of WPOA; Chief Tim Longo, Commission Chairman; and Russell Otis, Executive Director WPOA.

VEHICLE DECALS: Replacement decals can be obtained from the police department in the Community Office Building or by calling (434) 325-8526. There will be a **\$6.00** fee for each replacement decal.

NOTE: YOUR DECAL IS PERMANENT UNLESS YOU CHANGE VEHICLES OR YOUR DECAL BECOMES DAMAGED. SEE “VEHICLE DECALS” ABOVE IF YOUR NEED TO REPLACE A DECAL.

Please make sure that your vehicle has a decal for quick identification through the gate and in times of heavy traffic flow and special events.



Adding Natural Beauty to Your Landscape

Spring is creeping up the Blue Ridge, revealing nearly every hue of green imaginable. Blood roots, woodland anemones and trillium, among the first spring ephemerals, already have made their debut. Soon after the blooms of our forest divas – azaleas, rhododendrons, and mountain laurel – ranging from subtle to flamboyant, brighten the landscape.

Throughout the growing season, we enjoy a nearly endless palette of wildflowers as they cycle through their annual breathtaking rotation.



In the past, most of these colorful displays of native perennials have been limited to locations that were naturally endowed. Not anymore!

The Wintergreen Nature Foundation Native Plant Propagation Program now has more than 50 species of woodland natives propagated for sale, for a total of 1,800 shrubs and plants in its inventory. Now you can create a native garden on your own property. But, you ask, why native?

Wintergreen natives flourish in spite of harsh weather, poor soil and fluctuating moisture conditions. To paraphrase an old song, “they’ve grown accustomed their place.”

Native plants are among the many compelling reasons to live on a mountain top. Everything I have purchased from the Nature Foundation has thrived in my dry, rocky soil. Can't wait to add some new plants this year. *Cindy Coy, Ash Lane*

Native wildflowers and shrubs do much more than add beauty to the landscape. They help conserve water, reduce mowing costs, provide habitat for birds, butterflies and other wildlife, protect the soil and save money on fertilizer and pesticides. Also, as Lady Bird Johnson said, native plants "give us a sense of where we are in this great land of ours." If you plan well, a native garden even may mean less work and upkeep.



The Nature Foundation volunteers who make plant propagation a reality can be found working their germination secrets through seed propagation, plant division or cuttings, using only plants within the Foundation's mission area as sources. Plants are cultivated in a growing room at Trillium House as well as in a greenhouse on Beech Grove Road.

It is the Foundation's intention to expand this program in the near future to make it a significant source of sustainable operating income.

Adding Natural Beauty to Your Landscape Cont.

Visit the Foundation web site at www.twnf.org/plants.asp for more on gardening with natives.



This colorful new section on the Foundation web site – with links to plant descriptions and photos – lists plants that currently are available, suggests best plants for sun, partial sun and shade locations, identifies appropriate plants for

specialty gardens such as those that attract birds and butterflies and much more, including plants that are deer resistant.

For example, visit this link to learn about the Butterfly Weed: www.twnf.org/Plants/butterfly%20weed.pdf

Several times each year plants propagated from Wintergreen natives are offered for sale during holiday weekends. The next two sales will be held at Trillium House, home of the Nature Foundation.

Wildflower Symposium Plant Sale - May 18-21, 2012 **Memorial Day Plant Sale - May 26-28, 2012**

These seasonal events provide beginner and experienced gardeners with the opportunity to consult with native plant volunteers who can answer questions about growing conditions and help with your selection. You may even be inspired to join the volunteer group to get some “hands on” growing experience. They meet on Tuesday mornings at Trillium House; no experience required.

Another means of advancing your native plant expertise is to attend the annual Nature Foundation Wildflower Symposium, May 18-21. Considered a primer for living at Wintergreen, instructors for the weekend include well-known botanists, authors, and artists, each prepared with a full weekend of activities and lectures that will reconnect you with nature. See this year’s brochure at www.twnf.org/programs/2012_Wildflower_Symposium.pdf, or sign up online at www.twnf.org/programs/wfs_form.asp

One final thought. Nature Foundation members enjoy a 10 percent discount on plants and programs, so in addition to supporting an organization that needs each and every owner’s support to sustain our mission of environmental stewardship, membership saves you money and demonstrates your commitment to preserve the investment you have made in this unique community. www.twnf.org/membership.asp

Property Owner Street Address Signs

Owners have asked where they can get a sign with the Wintergreen Logo and their street address. Please contact Lester Hibbs, WPOA Maintenance for pricing/options at 434-325-8539 between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

Bear Smart Update

By the Bear Smart Council

It's time for the bears to reappear after their winter's sleep here in the forests surrounding Wintergreen. We who are the human neighbors have tasks to do to prepare for their reappearance.



Please Remember:

- **Take all bird feeders, suet feeders, and humming bird feeders down and keep them down until December 1, 2012.**
- **Do not leave any garbage or trash in construction dumpsters.**
- **Leave garbage in WPOA dumpsters or in bear-proof containers.**
- **Do not leave food in automobiles.**
- **Keep automobiles, 1st floor windows and doors of homes locked.**

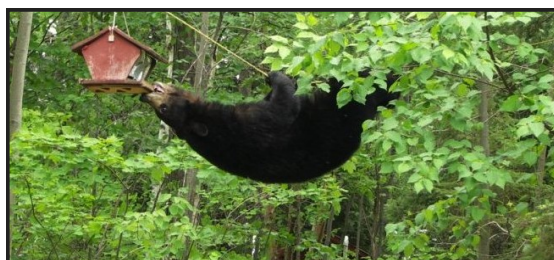
INTERESTING FACTS:

- The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries reports that 1997 black bears were harvested in Virginia during the past bear season.
- The population of bears is growing at an annual rate of nine percent.
- The total of black bears in Virginia is estimated to be 16,000-17,000 bears.
- In the past bear season, 69 bears were harvested in Nelson County and 152 bears were harvested in Augusta County.

For property owners interested in seeing a bear trap, one has been placed in the parking lot of the Wintergreen Nature Foundation.

The winter months have been very quiet in terms of bear activity, and it is our hope that we no longer have habituated bears. It is important that we follow the guidelines above to keep our bears wild.

The Bear Smart Council thanks the owners, WPOA, WPI and the Nature Foundation for their support of this important program.



Why?

Larry Alan Smith, Artistic and Executive Director
Wintergreen Performing Arts



I am writing this article while on a flight from Charlotte to Hartford after a long, but very rewarding day spent spreading the good news about Wintergreen Performing Arts and the upcoming Wintergreen Summer Music Festival. One of our board members hosted a musicale and reception at her home in Raleigh, North Carolina that was deeply appreciated by all who attended. Two of our board members and their spouses made long journeys by car to be there, and violinist Kenn Wagner, Associate Concertmaster of the Wintergreen Festival Orchestra, flew up from Atlanta to perform and speak about Wintergreen Performing Arts. Why would all of these busy people give up so much time and make such an effort to let others know about WPA? Well . . . these people have a very deep belief in the mission of Wintergreen Performing Arts and an extraordinary commitment to seeing the organization succeed.

You might think that they are the exception rather than the rule. In fact, these individuals are part of a large and rapidly expanding group that is working to secure WPA's future growth and development. After all, it has been quite a success story for an organization that is still less than 20 years old. A great deal has been accomplished since 1995, and the next few years promise to be very exciting.

WPA's supporters and volunteers understand the power of the arts, and since many of them are members of the Wintergreen Community, they also see that WPA can play a major role in the future of Wintergreen and Nelson County. The arts bring people together. The arts create visibility for communities, and they impact the quality of life. The arts make an area more appealing and more desirable. They generate dollars and they can define an image. The arts make an area special . . . distinctive. The arts allow human beings to be human beings . . . at times passionate . . . at times serene.



If you believe in the arts and in Wintergreen Performing Arts, we invite your participation as attendee, volunteer and donor.

Is your calendar up-to-date???



- #1 – The final Events Fair activity of 2011-12, **Down by the Riverside**, will be held on Saturday, May 19. Don't miss it!
- #2 – The 2012 Festival of Wines will take place at Wintergreen Resort on May 26 and 27 – Today Virginia, Tomorrow the World!
- #3 – The 2012 Wintergreen Summer Music Festival: **INNOVATION 2012** July 6-August 5 – More than 250 events in 31 days!

Phone: (434) 325-8292

For details, visit www.wintergreenperformingarts.org

A MESSAGE FROM WINTERGREEN PARTNERS INCORPORATED



P.O. Box 706
Wintergreen, VA 22958

Dear Wintergreen Resort Property Owner:

Wintergreen's Resort Services Department is available and ready to assist you in maintaining or improving your Wintergreen home. Wintergreen Resort Services provides expert, reliable home/condo service on the mountain and in Stoney Creek. Our professional services include:

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Heating & Cooling | Winter Home Checks | Locksmith |
| Electric | Painting – interior and exterior | Seasonal Home Checks |
| Plumbing | Carpentry | Remodeling |
| Maintenance | Appliance Repair | |

In addition to expert repairs, we are your onsite source for preventative maintenance. With fall right around the corner it's time to check and make sure your heating system is ready for winter. The HVAC&R staff provides spring and fall system checks, preventive maintenance contracts and equipment replacement. We also offer plans for periodic winter home heating checks to avoid costly damage due to frozen pipes. Here is a friendly winterization check list.

- Check vents and crawlspace access doors to ensure they are closed and properly secured
- Check crawl space heatlamps or other heaters where applicable for proper operation
- When away, make sure the main water supply into your home is shut off
- Set thermostats at a minimum of 55 degrees
- Check propane tanks for fuel level make sure filling ports are identified with stake when snow events occur.
- Disconnect water hoses from outside hydrants
- Clean gutters and make sure your address is visible

Be sure to visit the website for a complete list of services that we provide and give one of us a call at **434-325-8190**. We will be happy to assist you with any home maintenance issues you may have.

Mitchell Barker	Roy Kurpel	Shari Wilbur
Resort Services Manager	Resort Services Asst. Manager	Administrative Assistant
434.325.8189 o	434.325.8187 o	434.325.8190 o
434.325.8006 f	434.325.8006 f	434.325.8006 f
mbarker@wintergreenresort.com	rkurpel@wintergreenresort.com	swilbur@wintergreenresort.com



Be Adventurous and Support Great Causes!

Wintergreen Resort is pleased to announce the [Adventure Challenge](#) will support [Wintergreen Adaptive Sports \(WAS\)](#). WAS, a chapter member of Disabled Sports, USA, also works with Virginia Special Olympics and Wounded Warriors, to make outdoor recreation experiences possible for people with disabilities. Support these great programs by registering for the inaugural Wintergreen Adventure Challenge. A portion of all entry fees will be donated to WAS. **Date:** June 30 and July 1 **Highlights:**

- 7 miles
- 20 obstacles
- Over 1 mile of extreme elevation change
- The thrill of the finish line!

[Register early](#) to guarantee your choice of time. This is especially important for teams. Rates go up mid-May.

Upcoming Events

Memorial Weekend, May 25-28
Blues, Brews & BBQ, plus the Wine Festival-Today Virginia, Tomorrow the World

Hike Wintergreen, June 2 For the novice to the advanced trailblazer.

4th of July Jubilee, July 1-8 The highlight is fireworks on July 4th. See the Blue Ridge Light up! **Labor**

Day, August 31 - September 3
Say farewell to summer at Wintergreen with an International Wine Festival and more!



Wintergreen Friends Bulletin Board

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The Wintergreen Friends Bulletin Board accepts submissions similar to what you might post on a community bulletin board except for the following requirements and restrictions:

- Please make your submission as clear and concise as possible. Please put it in paragraph form (no more than one paragraph, please) without any color, large fonts, unusual formatting, or graphics.
- Always include your name and email address (phone number optional) in the body of your submission so that we may simply cut and paste your paragraph directly to the BB.
- We will run a submission a second time (maximum) but we ask you to resubmit it for the second publication.
- We do not accept recommendations or ads from for-profit entities (individuals or organizations) promoting their own goods or services. We realize this sometimes is a grey area and we may have to use our best judgment. We will also use our discretion about any other submissions that we feel are inappropriate to publish. We will not be responsible for any issues resulting from submissions to the Bulletin Board.

Here are our categories along with comments specific to each:

REQUESTS. This is the category to use when you want to borrow something, ask for a recommendation, see if anyone is interested in joining you in a particular activity, etc. If at all possible, first check our List of Recommendations (published at the end of each December) and all recent issues. It's possible that what you're looking for was in the Bulletin Board recently.

RECOMMENDATIONS. By including your name and email address, others will be able to get in touch with you if they want further information. If you change your mind, please let us know so that we will not include your recommendation in our year-end List of Recommendations!

ANNOUNCEMENTS. This is the place to let everyone know of your upcoming meeting, fund raising event, pet available for adoption, yard sale, etc.

FOR SALE / RENT and WANT TO BUY / RENT. We will accept items for sale or rent except from individuals or organizations in the business of selling or renting that type of item or service (i.e., no business ads). Be sure to give a complete description of the item (including condition) and don't forget to include your asking price. If you have numerous items, please mention two or three and say something like, "many more similar items are available". We cannot accept photographs of items for sale and suggest that you say "photographs available" or provide a link to your photograph(s).

We publish every other Sunday with the deadline for submissions the previous Friday night. If you change your email address, be sure to let us know! We do not share our email list. Please send all submissions, requests to be added or deleted from our list of subscribers, any comments, etc. to: WintergreenFriends@Gmail.com

Next Bulletin Board Issue: Sunday, May 13.

Submission Deadline: Friday, May 11.

Enjoy! Barbara Marker, Ellen Hampton, Ginger Fries, and Janelle Carroll.