

Mountain Women Monthly Meeting
Minutes
Friday, January 10, 2014

Mary Ellen Condon-Rall called the meeting to order at 10:30 am at Trillium House. This month's meeting was hosted by the Devils Knob neighborhood. The February meeting will be hosted by Laurel Springs neighborhood.

The meeting began with a program organized by Anne Marie Goss for Devils Knob. At the request of Anne Marie, Camille Kurtz introduced our guest speaker Katherine Lacaze, a reporter from the Nelson County Times, who spoke about her job and the stories she writes.

Ms. Lacaze talked initially about her educational background. Although originally from Arizona, she received her undergraduate degree from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, where she majored in print journalism and minored in criminal justice. She credited her college debate team with training her to gather accurate information and to present it impartially, qualities she considers to be foremost in her news reporting.

As a Nelson County Times reporter, she focuses on community level events--stories relevant to the people of Nelson County. Some of these events include local government level topics, Board of Supervisors decisions, new business events, and County Court decisions. Her ideas for news articles come from calendar items, meetings, driving around the county, emails from people, and interviews. In writing for the paper, she may take topics at the national level and see how these affect people in Nelson County.

Her 2014 topics will continue to focus on public safety (like the Alexis Murphy case), Nelson County Virginia Pageant, broadband, phone towers, property taxes, General Assembly decisions, SOL, Health Care Law changes, reports on Tye River, and growth along Rt. 151. She invited the audience to submit additional suggestions to her by email at klacaze@newsadvance.com or office phone 434-385-5842 or cell phone 434-841-8421.

A question and answer period followed Ms Lacaze's talk.

After a short social interlude, the business meeting began. It started with an attendance count of 18 members present: 6 from Blackrock, 4 from Devils Knob, 2 from The Springs and 6 from Laurel Springs.

Cindy Coy recognized members with January birthdays. They were as follows: January 2, Anne Marie Goss, January 5, Mary Ann Batchelor, January 9, Marjorie ChurchBourne, January 15, Sara McCracken, January 15, Joyce Smith, January 20, Kathy Ely, January 22, Helen Eisenhart, and January 29, Barbara Porter.

The Minutes from November 8, 2013 were approved.

The Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Treasurer Ellen Hampton, Mary Ellen Condon-Rall gave the Treasurer's Report. Because of the low end-of-the-year balance, Mary Ellen began a discussion of ways to increase revenue. She offered the Steering Committee's suggestion that monthly dues be increased from \$3.00 to \$4.00. Ginny Budd suggested raising the fee to \$5.00.

A motion was made to raise the amount to \$5.00. Ginny Budd seconded the motion. A discussion followed that led to the decision to ask the entire membership to make a final vote on the motion in February. An additional suggestion was made to place a cap on how much to accumulate in the treasury. The membership will be asked to vote either for keeping the current fee of \$3.00, raising the monthly fee to \$4.00, or raising the fee to \$5.00.

Group Reports as follows:

Book Group will meet at Barbara Porter's house on January 13 at 1:30 pm. The book for January is *Angle of Repose* by Wallace Stegner. The book for February is *Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls.

Epicurious Group will meet Thursday, February 13, at 6:00 pm for an Appetizer Party for members and guest. The remainder of the 2014 Schedule is Thursday, April 10, at 10:00 am at Cyndy Morris's house for an Italian Tutorial and Lunch; Thursday, June 12, at 10:00 am for an Asian Tutorial and Lunch, but no host has been designated; Thursday, August 7, at 10:00 am for a Vegetarian Tutorial and Lunch, but no host has been designated; Thursday, October 9, at 6:00 pm at Joyce Claman's house for a Moroccan Tutorial and Dinner for members and guest; and Thursday, December 11, at 10:00 am for the Annual Planning Meeting and Recipe Exchange (one-dish meals; make ahead meals), but no host has been designated.

Handiwork Group meets at 10:00 am on January 24 at Pat Harvey's house.

Gardening Group meets March 21 (3rd Friday) for an organizational meeting. Jill Toop requested feedback on April meeting. It may be a potting party at Waynesboro Garden Center. A place for the March meeting needs to be determined.

Steering Committee reviewed the 2014 officers: President: Mary Ellen Condon-Rall; Vice-President: Joyce Tate; Communicating Secretary: Maria Spence; Recording Secretary: Mary Carlson; Treasurer: Ellen Hampton.

Sporting Club will meet Saturday, January 18, from 5 pm to 8 pm at Tuckahoe Clubhouse. A BBQ dinner will be provided. Attendees are requested to bring a small dessert and one's own beverage (BYOB). Please respond by Monday, January 13, to Larry Luessen at lluessen@verizon.net Details on this event and additional sports classes can be found at <http://www.wtgssportingclub.com/>

The Nature Foundation distributed its schedule for the next 3 months.

WPOA's next board meeting will be in February. Martha Misker reported that the roads, safety, fire, and landscaping are in good shape.

WPA will have a fund raiser Friday, February 21. Apres Ski Fun-Due. Please contact the WPA office if you'd like to attend.

Mountain Homesteader Association will have a 60's Party on March 8th, a Garden Party on April 27th, a Shrimp Fest on June 7th, a Beach/Hawaiian Shirt Party on August 9th, the Annual MHA meeting on August 31st, a Lobster Fest on September 13th. See the website at <http://wintergreenmha.org/index.html> for more details

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Next month (February) meeting will be at the Trillium House at 10:00 am on Friday, February 14 and will be hosted by Laurel Springs Neighborhood whose Chairs are Joyce Claman and Martha Misker.

The Minutes were submitted by Jo Ann Armstrong, Substitute Recording Secretary for Mary Carlson

MOUNTAIN WOMAN MEETING MARCH 14, 2014

The February Mountain Women meeting was cancelled due to a winter storm. The February program arranged by the Blackrock neighborhood was presented this month instead and preceded the business meeting. Terri Brooks introduced Josh McLaughlin, Forestry Manager at the Virginia Department of Forestry at the Augusta Forestry Center in Cremora. Josh gave an overview by season of some of his responsibilities in the work of the forestry center including the planting, irrigation, fertilization, and soil fumigation to prevent the spread of disease of seedling trees. Because the center is self-supporting, trees grown there are sold to vendors such as lumber companies, nurseries and individuals. Mountain Women thanked Josh for an interesting and informative look at how seedling trees are grown.

President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall then called the business meeting to order. She thanked the Blackrock neighborhood for the program and The Springs neighborhood for the refreshments. Attendance by neighborhood showed 9 from Blackrock, 3 from Devils Knob, 4 from Laurel Springs, and 7 from The Springs present.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved with one minor correction.

The March birthdays, read by Maria Spence, are the 3rd Karen Sykes; 4th Linda Blackburn; 5th Yvonne Behm; 7th Louise Cesaro; 8th Georgia Orphan and Jeanine Bennett; 9th Betsy Agelasto; 11th Nancy Schwiesow; 14th Vera Jones; 19th Patti Brady; 20th Betsy Brown; 23rd Joyce Claman; 24th Janet Helgert and Nancy Spangler. All the women were wished a happy birthday.

Treasurer Ellen Hampton reported a balance of \$127.79 as of the end of January in the treasury, which is about \$20 less than at the same time last year. Dues of \$3.00 per meeting continue to be adequate for our expenses.

Janelle Carroll briefly explained that to reduce the expense of maintaining the Mountain Women website, the website can be moved to one of her personal web domains at no expense. To keep the domain name to access the website as users do now, the name can be transferred to a domain name service like Dotster. The yearly costs for the domain name registration service are \$8.29 for the first year to transfer the name and then \$14.99 for every year thereafter. Janelle will pay the private registration fee of \$8.99. These changes, which will go into effect in June when the present Yahoo account expires, will save Mountain Women approximately \$110 a year. Janelle was thanked for her work.

Interest Group and Special Project Reports

Epicurious: Cindy Coy reported that the Tapas Party was fun and that there is a waiting list for the April 17th Italian tutorial and luncheon. Future meetings include an Asian tutorial June 12th, a vegetarian tutorial and luncheon August 7th, a Moroccan tutorial and dinner for members and a guest on October 9th, and a planning meeting December 11th.

Book Group: Mary Ellen Condon-Rall said that Book Group will meet March 17th at Susie Patton's home to discuss *How It All Began* by P. Lively.

Handwork: Donna Foege said the group will meet at her house on March 28th.

Gardeners: Jill Toop said the group will meet at Nancy Schwiesow's house on March 21st to discuss general plans for the year.

WPOA, WPI, WPA, MHA, and the Nature Foundation: No reports

Wintergreen Sporting Club: Camille Kurtz said there will be a fishing trip to Idaho in September and one to Key West in February, 2015. Work on archery ranges or trails is in progress and work to restore local ponds for fishing and boating excursions are future projects.

A photography exhibit by Ben Greenberg is at the Natural History Museum in Rockfish Valley.

Reflection Garden: Marti Szczur reported that the Reflection Garden will be developed on WPOA land near Chestnut Springs pool and that WPOA has approved design plans. Phase 1 planting is scheduled for the spring. Fund raising will soon begin.

Maria Spence then told the group of a special Latino outreach project aimed at giving contract migrant workers who are here from April through October basic medical kits. Help to assemble these kits and donations to buy supplies would be welcome. Checks can be made out to Blue Ridge Medical Center and she can be contacted for further information at

paulnmaria_2000@yahoo.com. Donations of \$10 can be mailed to her home address- RR 1 Box 515 Roseland, VA 22967 . Maria will give the group monthly updates.

The April meeting will be hosted by the Blackrock neighborhood on Friday, April 11.

The meeting was adjourned.

For Mountain Women,

Mary Carlson, Recording Secretary

MOUNTAIN WOMEN MINUTES
APRIL 11, 2014

The regular business meeting was preceded by a talk entitled “Animals in Our Backyard—Big and Small” by guest speaker Jon W. Donaldson. Donaldson, who was introduced by Sue Carlson, is a wildlife specialist and animal photographer with the USDA. In his work, he uses a variety of methods to help alleviate damage to agriculture, property, natural resources, and human health from many of the animals we may encounter locally. Enhancing his talk with slides, he briefly discussed the gestation period, litter size, reproductive frequency, life span, important and interesting facts, and methods to reduce or prevent environmental damage caused by deer, woodchucks, cottontail rabbits, raccoons, striped skunks, moles, voles, squirrels, black bears, Canada geese, woodpeckers and vultures. He noted that raccoons and skunks have a very high rate of rabies. In Virginia more complaints are received about Canada geese than any other animals; however, vultures are an increasing problem and complaints about them may soon outnumber those for geese. Any questions or problems can be reported to State Director Dr. Scott Barras (804-739-7739) or Western District Supervisor Chad Fox (540-381-7387).

The business meeting was then called to order by President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall. The minutes of March 14, 2014 were approved. Reporting for Treasurer Ellen Hampton, Mary Ellen reminded everyone to pay her \$3.00 meeting dues, and members may pay ahead \$30.00 for the year.

Attendance by neighborhood was as follows: Blackrock, 8; Devils Knob, 2; Laurel Springs, 4; and The Springs, 8. Mary Ellen thanked Blackrock members for hosting the meeting, and they received a round of applause.

Birthdays for April include April 1, Sandi Nettina; April 2, Janie Kirkeby; April 5, Ellen Hampton and JoAnn Zuercher; April 6, Phyllis Coulter; April 7, Susie Patton and Pat Thompson; April 8, JoAnn Armstrong; April 11, Lois Armel and Dawn Perusse; April 15, Jill Toop; April 16, Bev Bates and /Barbara Lyn Belcher; April 19, Lisa Garber; April 27, Marcia Yanick and Maria Spence; April 28, Eva Blum; and April 29, Kathy Parrott.

Reports:

Gardeners: Jill Toop said that on April 18 Gardeners will return to Waynesboro Garden Center for the annual potting party followed by lunch. In May the group will tour the arboretum at James Madison University. Please let Jill know if you have previously been on the email list, and are now not receiving emails.

Book Group: Mary Ellen Condon-Rall said the group will meet on April 14 at Susie Patton’s home to discuss *How It All Began* by Penelope Lively.

Handwork: Donna Foege said an email with the next meeting details will be coming.

Epicurious: Epicurious will host an Italian tutorial and luncheon on April 17 at Cyndy Morris’ home for those who have already reserved.

The Nature Foundation: Kathy Knowles said that "mountain" author Bruce Bertelsen will discuss his new book at the Nature Foundation on April 11. She invited everyone to come. She also said that with the change of seasons Native American artifacts are now being heaved up around Wintergreen.

Wintergreen Performing Arts: Larry Alan Smith will leave at the end of this summer's festival. His job as artistic and executive director will now be split, and WPA is looking for an artistic director and a managerial director for next year. Don't forget the "Copacabana" Gala Evening is this Saturday, April 26 at 6 pm in the Commonwealth Ballroom. Please contact the WPA office for tickets at (434) 325-8292.

Mountain Homesteaders Association: Mary Carlson said the Spring Garden Party will be held April 27 at Trillium House. If some of those who are going could help with set-up or clean-up, she would appreciate it.

The Sporting Club: Sue Soloman described some of the future sport outings and spring social.

Reflection Garden: Marti Szczur reported that initial plantings and mulch have been selected and that garden plant donations will be accepted and appreciated. She noted that WPOA has been very helpful with work to date. Fund raising headed by Cindy Coy will soon begin and memorial river stone may be purchased. In August, when Mountain Women meets at Chestnut Springs, there will be a tour for everyone present.

WPI and WPOA: No reports

General Announcements;

Sue Carlson will speak about the flowers of Holland on April 16 at 12:00 noon at the Nature Foundation. Sue also said that Barbara Porter is recovering very well from hip replacement surgery and is grateful for all the meals that people have made for her.

Mary Ellen said that Maria Spence, who was away, thanked everyone for their donations, now over \$250.00, toward first aid kits for migrant workers in Nelson County through BRMC.

Joyce Tate said that speakers from Blackfriars Playhouse will be at the next Mountain Women on May 9.

At the June meeting, members can share memories of their fathers and grandfathers.

As soon as the weather is warm enough, Mountain Women will meet outdoors at Chestnut Springs. Watch for emails about meeting location.

The meeting was adjourned.

For Mountain Women,
Mary Carlson
Recording Secretary

MOUNTAIN WOMEN MINUTES MAY 9, 2014

The regular business meeting was preceded by a talk by Christina Sayer Grey from the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton who spoke about the Blackfriars Playhouse where she is the marketing manager. Grey, who was introduced by Joyce Tate, explained that plays at the theater are performed with the lights on and that audiences are seated on three sides. These conditions, the company feels, help build better contact between the actors and the audience and between the members of the audience as well. She also noted that Shakespeare wrote in iambic pentameter and illustrated this form with numerous examples from his works. After describing the upcoming season, Grey took questions. She left brochures for anyone interested in more information and she can be contacted directly at (540) 885-5588, ext. 19 if there are further questions or interest in donations.

The business meeting was then called to order by President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall. The minutes of April 11, 2014 were approved. Mary Ellen said that the Steering Committee will meet in June and one of the topics to be discussed is the holiday luncheon. Treasurer Ellen Hampton said there was \$154.79 in the treasury as of the end of April.

Kathryn Cameron-Porter was welcomed back as an almost new member.

Attendance by neighborhood was as follows: Blackrock, 6; Devils Knob, 1; Laurel Springs, 7; and The Springs, 6. Mary Ellen then thanked The Springs neighborhood for organizing the speaker and the Devils Knob neighborhood for providing refreshments.

Birthdays for May include May 1, Sally Boykin; May 4, Karen Ondayko and Tam Smith; May 6, Gloria Barrett and Gail Neal; May 15, Margaret Adams; May 18, Nancy Sundin; May 26, Lee Klousia; May 30, Donna Foege. Mary Klein, and Mimi Scott.

Reports

Gardeners: Jill Toop said that on May 16 Gardeners will tour the arboretum at James Madison University in Harrisonburg and that the tour will be followed by lunch.

Book Group: Mary Ellen said that the group will meet on May 12 at Barbara Porter's home.

Wintergreen Performing Arts: Mary Ellen said that brochures for the July 7-August 3 summer music festival are now available at the WPOA office if members have not already received them in the mail. This year's theme is Amazonas The Rhythms and Colors of South America. This will be the last festival under the direction of artistic and executive director Larry Alan Smith. Approximately 40 candidates have applied for the position which has been split into two parts. Maria Spence added that the recent annual WPA gala was a success.

Sporting Club: Camille Kurtz said that the club now has almost 100 members. Some of the upcoming events include an archery demonstration followed by a social at the Tuckahoe Clubhouse on May 10; a fly fishing clinic open to all on May 12; and a canoe trip on the James River May 31 which is being coordinated by Sue Solomon. The club and resort are jointly developing an archery course and a field archery trail on the mountain. More information can be

obtain by visiting the website Wintergreen Sporting Club.com.

The Nature Foundation plant propagation program will have a plant sale on May 10 at the greenhouse on Route 664.

Epicurious will host an Asian Tutorial and luncheon on June 12, More information will be available soon.

The Wintergreen Reflection Garden: Marti Szczur said the Reflection Garden, just to the left of Chestnut Springs Pavilion and Pool, is being developed in collaboration with WPOA which has been very helpful by offering a site and helping with such things as planting and mulching. At the August Mountain Women meeting, we will tour the garden. Later this summer, memory river stones to honor those who have passed on who have a tie to Wintergreen or our families will be added to the garden. She handed out an information sheet and noted that progress can be followed on her blog: <http://wgreenreflectiongarden.blogspot.com>.

Handwork and Mountain Homesteaders: No reports

General Announcements

Maria Spence said that the Blue Ridge Medical Center Hispanic outreach will be giving first aid kits to migrant male agricultural workers who come in for a health assessment. More kits may be put together possibly in June. She also read a letter from the medical center thanking us for donations toward kit supplies.

Mary Ellen said that First Tuesday, a dinner gathering of anyone who lives on the mountain on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm, will meet at the Copper Mine in June. The group is considering permanently moving to that restaurant.

Sue Carlson announced that The Wintergreen Nature Foundation Wildflower Symposium is May 16-18. The cost is \$120/person and anyone interested can sign-up at the Nature Foundation.

The Nelson County Folk Life Festival will be May 18 at Pharsalia.

Anne Marie Goss said that at our June meeting members will have an opportunity to share positive memories and experiences of our fathers, grandfathers, sons and other important males in our lives.

The meeting was adjourned.

For Mountain Women,

Mary Carlson
Recording Secretary

**MOUNTAIN WOMEN
MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall. The minutes of May 9, 2014 were approved as written. Reporting for Treasurer Ellen Hampton, Mary Ellen said that at the end of May there was a balance of \$221.79 which is an increase of \$67.00 for the month and an increase of \$73.97 for the year.

Attendance by neighborhood was as follows: Blackrock, 5; Devils Knob, 1; Laurel Springs, 6; The Springs, 5. Mary Ellen thanked the Laurel Springs neighborhood for hosting the meeting and Joyce Claman and Martha Misker for arranging the program.

New members Jane Glover and Cindy Todd were introduced. Each one told the group a little about herself.

Birthdays for June include June 1, Judy DeWitt, Susan McIver; June 5, Gwynn Cain, Joy Leman, Eloise Strand; June 9, Jan Jones; June 18, Christine White; June 20, Sue Carlson; June 23, Joanne White; June 25, Sandi Meyer; June 27, Arlene Stone; June 28, Lynn Luessen; June 29, Barbara Norton; June 30, Camille Kurtz. Members then sang Happy Birthday to June birthday members.

Reports

Holiday Luncheon: Mary Ellen said it will likely be at the Devils Grill again. She will meet with restaurant staff to discuss the price. Vera Jones asked if Mountain Women would again subsidize the cost and Mary Ellen said no.

Gardeners: Jill Toop announced Gardeners would visit a lesser known nursery, Quarters Farm and Nursery, near Crozet, on June 20. Jo Ann Armstrong briefly described plant propagation work by the Nature Foundation and showed two Canada lily plants, one of which had been sold, and the other which was for sale. The greenhouse on Route 664 is open on Tuesdays, especially in the morning, for those who might want to visit and/or purchase plants.

Book Group: Barbara Porter said members would meet June 16 at 1:30 at a location to be announced. At this meeting, books for the coming months would be selected.

Handwork Group: Donna Foege reported that the group would meet June 27 at Helen Eisenhart's home. In July the group is hoping to take a field trip.

Epicurious: Cindy Coy briefly described the recent Asian tutorial and lunch and thanked the host and cooks. Future programs include an August 7 vegetarian luncheon, an October 9 Moroccan dinner for members and guests, and a December 10 planning meeting.

Wintergreen Performing Arts: Mary Ellen reported that housing for festival musicians and weekend meals for Academy students are needed. Cindy Coy added that a mountain housing chairperson is also needed, and anyone interested can contact her. Kelly Berrang is the overall housing coordinator.

Wintergreen Sporting Club: Joyce Claman said the next outing is a boating trip on the James River June 28.

Reflection Garden: Cindy Coy said that gardening work at the nearby Reflection Garden would follow today's Mountain Women meeting. Donations to cover remaining expenses would be appreciated.

Nature Foundation: Cindy announced that the Nature Foundation has a new website. Volunteers are always needed.

First Tuesday: Residents gather the first Tuesday evening of each month at 6:00 to have dinner together. The group is currently meeting at the Copper Mine. No reservations are needed.

WPOA, MHA: No reports.

Cindy Todd asked if there is interest in forming a genealogy group. There is considerable interest among members.

A talk by Barbara Porter about her hip replacement surgery was to have been the June program. However, there was not enough time because so many members took advantage of having EKGs done during the meeting. Barbara's talk has been rescheduled for the August meeting.

The 2014 hosting schedule is as follows:

Blackrock—April, August
September

Devil's Knob—January, May,

Laurel Springs—February, June, and October
November

The Springs—March, July,

There is no December host due to the holiday luncheon.

In July, The Springs neighborhood will be the hosts, and the Academy students will play for Mountain Women at Trillium House.

Good News:

Millie Steele is doing well as her treatment begins.

Cindy Coy, Donna Foege, and Barbara Porter all have new grandchildren.

For Mountain Women,

Mary Carlson
Recording Secretary

MOUNTAIN WOMEN MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2014

The business meeting was preceded by a performance by the Shamokin Springs String Quartet. The members of this quartet are all Wintergreen Performing Arts Academy students, who played the 1st movement of Ludwig von Beethoven's 12th string quartet. A performance for Mountain Women by Academy students has become a tradition at our July meeting. Following their performance, the students told us a little about themselves and answered questions.

President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall then called the business meeting to order. The minutes of June 13, 2014 were approved. Treasurer Ellen Hampton reported a balance at the end of the month of \$290.79, which is an increase of about \$143 for the year. Mary Ellen reminded everyone to be sure to pay the \$3.00 per meeting dues and said that members may pay ahead \$30 for the year.

She then thanked The Springs neighborhood for hosting the meeting and they received a round of applause. Attendance by neighborhood was as follows: Blackrock, 7; Devils Knob, 6; Laurel Springs, 5; and The Springs, 7. Mountain Women welcomed three new members who are Carol Fonda Eustice, Diane Foster, and Phebe Westcott.

Birthdays for July include July 7, Glenda Cox; July 9, Nancy Wilkinson; July 13, Cindy Todd; July 15, Ellen English and Kathy Gunner; July 19, Barbara Marker; July 23, Lucy Rose; July 24, Sue Tiller; July 25, Joanne White; and July 26, Ginny Budd.

Reports

Gardeners: Reporting for Jill Toop, Mary Carlson said that Gardeners will not meet in July. The next meeting is August 14 and everyone attending will make a concrete birdbath. Jill will send out more information at the end of July or the beginning of August.

Book Group: Book Group will meet on July 14 at the home of Kathy Gunner to discuss *Queen of Fashion. What Marie Antoinette Wore to the Revolution* by Caroline Webber.

Epicurious: Cindy Coy announced that Epicurious will host a vegetarian tutorial and luncheon for members on August 7 and a Moroccan tutorial and dinner for members and a guest on October 9.

Wintergreen Performing Arts: Mary Ellen Condon-Rall said that the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy has begun and will continue to August 3. Executive and Artistic Director Larry Alan Smith is stepping down and his position will now be split in two. The WPA Board is now interviewing candidates to fill both of these. Yvonne Behm announced that a Paraguayan-inspired luncheon will be given on July 20 as a fund-raiser for WPA. Michelle Clark added that members can see all of the fund raising events at the WPA website.

Mountain Homesteaders Association: The next MHA event is an August 9 Hawaiian shirt party. Michelle Clark said that the dates for MHA events after the annual meeting have been set and will be available at the annual meeting. These events will now start at 6:00 PM. Volunteers to help at events are needed and welcome. To see what the events are, visit the MHA website.

Wintergreen Sporting Club: Camille Kurtz asked that club members answer a few brief survey questions so that emails can be customized to members' interests. To see coming events, visit the club website.

Handwork, WPI, WPOA, and the Nature Foundation: No reports.

Announcements

Maria Spence reported that first aid medical kits, assembled by volunteers at her house, have already been distributed through Blue Ridge Medical Center to Hispanic seasonal workers. Contributions from Mountain Women to buy supplies for these kits was nearly \$600.

Marti Szczur said that Phase I work on the Reflection Garden is nearly complete. During Phase II engraved memory stones can be purchased.

On the first Tuesday of each month, First Tuesday, a group open to anyone who lives full- or part-time on the mountain, gathers for dinner at 6:00 PM. The group now meets at the Coppermine and has a private room.

Michelle Clark asked that members let the MW Board know about any program ideas they may have.

Joyce Tate said that golf lessons are available for WPI members only. A course of 8 weeks of lessons is being offered at a cost of \$30/lesson and those interested can take as many lessons as they like. For more information call Valley Golf and ask to speak to the golf pro, Jeff.

Michelle Clark said that brochures for the Staunton Music Festival are available at today's meeting.

Hosting Schedule

Blackrock: April, August
October

Devils Knob: January, May, September
November

There is no December host due to the holiday luncheon.

Laurel Springs: February, June,

The Springs: March, July,

The meeting was adjourned.

For Mountain Women,

Mary Carlson
Recording Secretary

MOUNTAIN WOMEN MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2014

The business meeting was preceded by an informative talk by Chad Zakaib, who was introduced by Jo Ann Armstrong. Zakaib is the program director for Legacy Hospice, a for-profit business serving Nelson County and several nearby counties. Opening in 2009, Legacy, which does not have a patient facility, currently cares for 95 patients in their homes, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and even hospitals. Their care is generally covered by Medicare. Zakaib handed out a brochure about hospice and reviewed it with members.

The business meeting was called to order by President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall. The minutes of July 11, 2014 were approved. Treasurer Ellen Hampton reported a balance of \$313.79 at the end of July which is an increase of \$166 for the year. Mary Ellen said that the Steering Committee will meet before the general meeting on September 12.

Attendance by neighborhood was as follows: Blackrock, 9; Devils Knob, 1; Laurel Springs, 5; The Springs, 7. Mary Ellen thanked Blackrock for hosting the meeting. Mountain Women welcomed new member Mari Olga Kelley.

Birthdays for August include August 2, Cyndy Morris; August 5, Polly Williams; August 6, Cynthia Kelly; August 12, Dotty Rice; August 14, Pat Harvey; August 16, Marti Szczur; August 17, Diane Woolridge; August 20, Cindy Cobb; August 21, Lynnda Gilliam and Kathy Tardy; August 29, Joanne Street; August 30, Jane Glover and Martha Misker; August 31, Dianne Foster, Hazel Griffith, and Millie Steele.

Reports

Gardeners: Jill Toop reported that Gardeners will meet August 15 at 9:30 am to make concrete birdbaths. The cost is \$10 per person. More information will soon be sent out. In September, the group will visit water gardens.

Holiday Luncheon: Mary Ellen announced that the holiday luncheon will be held December 12 and that the Devils Grill is once again interested in scheduling the group. The price is still being negotiated and the Steering Committee will make a final decision at their September meeting.

Book Group: Mary Ellen said the group will meet August 11 at the home of Gwynn Cain to discuss *The Battle of the Villa Fiorita*.

Nature Foundation: Terri Brooks reported on four upcoming Nature Foundation events. On August 20, from 1:00-3:00, there will be a meeting in the Dunlop Room at Trillium House for a discussion of current stormwater management techniques as these relate to the Wintergreen community by Nicola McGoff, a conservation technician from the Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District. On August 23, the Nature Foundation will host the Frontyard Barbeque neighborhood picnic, which is free to members and will cost \$10 for nonmembers. Those interested should RSVP to the Nature Foundation. On Labor Day weekend, August 28-29, the annual fall plant sale will take place from 10:00-3:00 each day. On September 19 is the Sarah Ott golf tournament.

WPOA: Martha Misker reminded members that the WPOA annual meeting is November 8.

Epicurious: On August 7, the group held a vegetarian luncheon at the home of Mary Ellen Condon-Rall. The next event is a Moroccan dinner October 9 for members who may bring a guest.

Mountain Homesteaders: The annual Lobster Fest will be held September 27.

Wintergreen Sporting Club: Camille Kurtz said members will now receive emails for only those activities they have indicated they are interested in. Current projects include planning for pond restoration, construction of archery courses, shooting practice, and canoe and kayak river trips.

First Tuesday: Those interested should meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 at the Copper Mine.

Reflection Garden: A tour of the garden has been postponed until the September meeting.

Announcements

Nancy Schwiesow reported that Roseland Postmaster Marvin is featured in the current *Blue Ridge Life*.

Kathy Gunner asked members to consider using the Roseland Post Office for postal services so that branch will not close.

Mary Carlson asked that members who make group reports to please give her a short written summary which will help her accurately record that information in the minutes.

The 2014 Hosting Schedule is as follows:

Devils Knob- September
Laurel Springs- October
The Springs- November

There is no December host due to the Holiday Luncheon.

For Mountain Women,

Mary Carlson
Recording Secretary

**Mountain Women
Minutes of September 12, 2014**

The business meeting preceded the September program. Mary Ellen called the meeting to order at 10:00 am, announcing that Jo Ann Armstrong would take the minutes of the meeting for Mary Carlson. The host neighborhood for the September meeting was Devils Knob with 5 members present. Devils Knob was thanked for their refreshments and autumn table arrangement. The Laurel Springs neighborhood also had 5 members present. Blackrock had 8 members present with 1 new member, Cindy Todd. The Springs had 6 members present with 1 new member, Deborah Stone (1513 The Cliffs). Mari Olga Kelley was also recognized as a new member from The Springs. Maps of neighborhoods were made available at the back of the room for anyone interested.

Birthdays for September include Christine Casey, September 19; Gwynn Litchfield, September 20; Susan Moore, September 21; Cynthia DeLuca, September 24; Sara Dassance, September 24; Diane Crannis, September 25; Joan Hines, September 25; Hilary Partridge, September 27; and Mary Beth Matthews, September 27.

Minutes for the August meeting taken by Mary Carlson were approved.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Ellen Hampton. She reported that the current balance in treasury was \$363.67 at the end of August. A reminder was made about the \$3.00 dues and that advance payment and lump sum payments are appreciated.

President's Report concerned the Holiday Christmas Luncheon. Again this year the luncheon will be at the Devil's Grill. The date will be December 12, second Friday of the month, beginning at 11:00 am for those who wish to mingle. The luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon at a price of \$35(including taxes and tip). A special Christmas Cocktail will be served at a price of \$8.00. Wine will also be available at a price of \$8-\$10. Members should confirm by sending a check to Ellen Hampton at least by 2 weeks before the luncheon date on December 12. An information email will be sent out in November. A list of attendees will be emailed to everyone.

The Hosting Schedule for the remainder of 2014 is as follows:
Laurel Springs—October
The Springs—November

Special Christmas Luncheon at Devil's Grill—December (Starting at 11:00 for social with lunch at 12:00 noon)

Group Reports:

Garden Club—September meeting was announced as being on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at the Water Gardens in Greenville, VA. Interested members were asked to email Jill Toop and to meet by 9:30 at the mountain mailboxes for carpooling.

Book Club—September meeting was announced as taking place on Monday, September 15 at the home of Sue Carlson, Tyro Lane, Blackrock. The group will discuss "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" by Rachel Joyce.

Epicurious Food Group—Cindy Coy reported the October meeting would be at Joyce Claman's house. The next meeting will be in December.

WPI and WPOA did not have reports.

Nature Foundation—Cindy Coy reported a smaller version of "Décor and More" will be a "Festivette of Trees" to be held on November 8 in the Mountain Inn Lobby. Donations of trees and wreaths are requested. Please contact Cyndy Morris.

WPA—a new Artistic Director Erin Freeman has been appointed.

Mountain Homesteaders—hosting the Lobster Fest on September 27 at \$30 per person. Brochures were made available at the meeting.

Sporting Club—no report was available.

Opportunity Ball was announced by Joyce Claman as taking place on October 24 at the Veritas Winery. There will be live and silent auctions. Website is www.nelsonfund.org

Announcements:

Cindy Todd offered to chair a genealogy group. Her email address for those interested in joining is cindytodd7@aol.com

Marti Szczur announced the Reflection Garden has completed Phase 1. Engraved rocks and purchasing information is forthcoming. Bench will be in next month She also announced an open house will be held at Rodes Farm stable November 1.

Joyce Claman announced Wintergreen Performing Arts will host a performance on September 12 at the The Barn on Rodes Farm Drive. WPA has set a goal of having 60 people attend.

Reminder:

The first Tuesday of each month everyone is invited to have dinner at the Coppermine restaurant at 6:00 pm. No reservations are necessary for "First Tuesday."

Mary Ellen shared a note sent by Maria Spence about possible upcoming changes at the Roseland Post Office. Please use the Roseland post office when possible. Since financial cuts, including cuts in personnel's hours are possible, everyone is asked to be ready to send letters of support to the new postmaster, requesting the staff be allowed to keep their current work hours to allow for the continuing quality of service to customers. If mail arrives late due to overworked staff, everyone should let the postmaster know of our dissatisfaction.

After the business meeting adjourned at 11:00 am, a program on BodiBalance was presented.

Cindy Coy introduced Carol Fonda and gave a brief description of Carol's professional background as a dancer, choreographer and creator of BodiBalance. Carol explained BodiBalance is a system of dance training, body conditioning and kinesthetic awareness. Originally designed for dancers, everyone can benefit from the physical understanding of how freely and spontaneously one's body is designed to move. She demonstrated and actively involved us in the floor warmup and movement principles.

At the end of the program, Carol distributed a questionnaire designed to allow her to develop a new BodiBalance program for Retirees. She was encouraged to offer a series of classes when she returns to Wintergreen next spring/summer. For additional information you may contact Carol at cmariefonda@me.com or phone 917-579-9170.

For Mountain Women,

Jo Ann Armstrong
Substituting for Mary Carlson, Recording Secretary

**MOUNTAIN WOMEN
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall. The minutes of September 12, 2014 were approved. Reporting for Treasurer Ellen Hampton, Mary Ellen said that at the end of September there was \$471.70 in the treasury, an increase of about \$324 since the beginning of the year.

Attendance by neighborhood was as follows: Black Rock, 7; Devils Knob, 1; Laurel Springs, 6; and The Springs, 3. Mary Ellen thanked the host neighborhood Laurel Springs.

Birthdays for October include October 7, Cindy Coy; October 16, Terri Brooks; October 18, Joyce Tate; October 19, Mike Williams; October 20, Patty Roupe; October 21, Lola Reinsch; October 22, Shirley Brauning; October 29, Phyllis Workman; October 30, Glenna Martin, October 31, Shirley Huff.

Reports

Mountain Gardeners: The Mountain Gardeners will host their annual seed exchange and social at 10 AM Friday, October 17. It will be held at Maria Spence's house on Trails Edge. Gardeners will exchange seeds, any spare perennials and bulbs, and garden tools. Non-members are welcome and no one has to bring seeds or other items in order to participate. Information will be sent to anyone requesting it. Contact Jill Toop GCToopT@aol.com for further information or to be placed on the Gardeners' e-mail list.

The Mountain Gardeners November craft meeting will be held on Friday, November 21. Information regarding that meeting will be sent to all members in late October/early November.

Book Group: Mary Ellen said that the group will meet October 13 at 2:00 PM at the home of Mary Carlson to discuss the *House Girl* by Tara Conklin.

Epicurious: On October 9, the group hosted a Moroccan-themed dinner for members and guests at the home of Joyce Claman.

The Nature Foundation: Terri Brooks announced the annual meeting will be held November 8 at 2:00 in the Skyline Pavilion. The Nature Foundation will also welcome new property owners at an orientation meeting that afternoon. This year Décor and More will be replaced by the Festival of Trees. Additional information can be obtained by calling the Nature Foundation or visiting their website www.twnf.org.

WPA: Mary Ellen said that Erin Freeman, Associate Conductor and Chorus Director of the Richmond Symphony was recently named the new Artistic Director and Karen Quillen will become the new Administrative Director.

Sporting Club: Camille Kurtz reported that the Sporting Club now has 110 members. The semi-annual business meeting and social is November 1 at the Tuckahoe Club House. Archery, shooting, and canoeing/kayaking activities are continuing. In September, a small group of members traveled to Idaho to fish the Snake River. Future fishing trips include Key West in February, 2015, Belize in June, 2015, and a trip to Patagonia in 2016 is under consideration.

More information can be found at WTGsportingclub.com.

WPOA: Martha Misker urged everyone to vote for new WPOA directors early by proxy or in person at the annual meeting November 8.

Joyce Claman reminded members that the Opportunity Ball to benefit the Nelson County Community Fund will be held October 24 at Veritas Winery.

Mary Ellen reported that Carol Fonda is working on having a BodiBalance workshop at Wintergreen next summer.

Mary Ellen also said that the Mountain Women holiday luncheon will be held December 12 at the Devils Grill. The cost, which includes tax and gratuity, is \$35/person.

Mary Carlson asked that those announcing multiple events for a group or organization please give her a printed copy of those announcements to insure accuracy in the minutes.

The last Mountain Women meeting in November will be hosted by The Springs. There is no December host due to the holiday luncheon.

Martha Misker then narrated a slide show of her summer trip to Russia, which everyone very much enjoyed.

For Mountain Women,

Mary Carlson
Recording Secretary

Mountain Women Minutes of November 14, 2014

Mountain Women met at the Bold Rock Cidery on Rockfish Valley Highway and were taken on a tour of the facility by John Washburn, one of the owners.

Following the tour, the business meeting was called to order by President Mary Ellen Condon-Rall. The minutes of October 10, 2014 were approved. Treasurer Ellen Hampton reported a balance of \$460.70 an increase of \$312 since the beginning of the year.

Attendance by neighborhood was as follows: Black Rock, 8; Devils Knob, 2; Laurel Springs, 4; The Springs, 5. Mary Ellen thanked The Springs for hosting today's meeting and members gave neighborhood chair Michelle Clark a round of applause for organizing the Bold Rock program.

Birthdays for November include November 2, Helen Jacobs; November 10, Jean Bertelsen and Kate McIntire; November 12, Susan Solomon; November 15, Suzanne Street; November 17, Kim Juergens; November 19, Carole Lonergan; November, 20, Susan Talarico; November 21, Gana Dunlop; November 25, Cheryl Ellsworth and Beverly Holloway; November 28, Prina Armour and Nancy Nevill; November 29, Mary Carlson.

Mary Ellen reminded members that the December 12 holiday luncheon will be at the Devils Grill beginning with a cash bar at 11:00 followed by lunch at 12:00. Cost is \$35/person. The Steering Committee voted to pay \$3.19/person toward the lunch from the treasury. Payment must be made to Ellen Hampton by Dec. 2.

Reports

Gardeners: Jill Toop said that on November 21 Gardeners will meet at the Village Garden Center in Fishersville for a holiday craft session where they will create a holiday fairy garden. Cost is \$20 which includes the workshop and materials. Those who have previously reserved a place should meet at the mailboxes promptly at 9:00 if you wish to carpool or travel as a group. Lunch will follow the workshop at nearby Tony's Pizzeria and Italian Restaurant.

Book Group: Barbara Porter reported that readers will meet on November 17 at 2:00 pm at the home of Susan Solomon to discuss *The Invention of Wings* by Susan Monk Kidd.

WPA: Mary Ellen said the WPA Board has met the new artistic director Erin Freeman, Associate Conductor and Chorus Director of the Richmond Symphony, but they have not yet had a working meeting with her. The WPA A La Carte Committee is currently working on a fund-raising dinner with a mystery theme to be held on January 24, 2015.

Wintergreen Sporting Club: Camille Kurtz said that some club members are working on projects such as fish stocking in local ponds/lakes. Another project is that of pond restoration and improvement, being undertaken with the assistance of a faculty member and graduate students from Lynchburg College. A field archery course is also being laid out.

Genealogy: Cindy Todd said this new group recently met for the first time. Its goal is to help members trace their family roots as well as explore Virginia history through field trips, speakers, and research. The next meeting will be May 12, 2015 at The Edge. Watch for an email in early

spring.

Epicurious: The December meeting at which members will plan the program for 2015 will be held at the home of Pat Harvey. Details will be announced in an email to members.

Lynnda Gilliam said that in the weeks before Christmas, Greenbrier Resort will be wrapping Christmas presents for West Virginia children. Any help with wrapping would be appreciated. Michelle Clark suggested Mountain Woman consider doing something as an organization for our community in 2015.

Joyce Tate said that Hazel Griffith would like everyone to know that those who will be alone on Thanksgiving are welcome to celebrate the holiday at an open Thanksgiving dinner in a private home on the mountain. Contact Hazel for details at 325-9053.

The 2015 hosting schedule is as follows:

Black Rock: April, August
Devils Knob: January, May, September
Laurel Springs: February, June, October
The Springs: March, July, November

There is no host neighborhood for December due to the holiday luncheon. The next official meeting will be Friday, Jan. 9, 2015.

For Mountain Women,

Mary Carlson
Recording Secretary