

Mountain Women
Friday, January 8, 2010
Minutes

The January 2010 meeting of Mountain Women was called to order by Barbara Porter at 10:16 a.m. with approximately 20 members in attendance.

With two presentations scheduled, the normal order of business was eliminated in order to provide each with sufficient time.

Helen Eisenhart provided the Recording Secretary with the following January birthdays via email: Joan Stemmler – 11; Helen Eisenhart – 22; Barbara Porter – 29; Wendy Valentine – 31. Happy Birthday to all.

Eloise Strand reported on the Wounded Warrior weekend (January 22-24). Volunteers will be making yellow ribbons (and having lunch) immediately following the Mountain Women meeting. Volunteers are also needed to sell tickets and help with the banquet which will be held on Saturday night, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. The cost of the banquet is \$25.00 per person. She reported that housing appears to meet projected needs.

1. George Miler and Tim Costello from the Nelson County Service Authority shared information on the current water situation at Wintergreen (both the New Year's weekend issues and subsequent outages). In summary, the leak at the tennis courts that was the impetus for the New Year's shortage has been repaired. The Authority is currently searching for other small, as yet undetermined, leaks. The problem with leaks on the mountain involves older infrastructure, the lack of accurate schematics, and the fact that some leaks do not appear on the surface, but rather go down through the rocks. If you notice a visible leak, please call the Service Authority.

A chart was provided that showed treatment plant hours of operation, and high and low levels in the tanks at Devil's Knob and Wintergreen Drive between 20 December and 3 January. The plant continues to operate 24 hours per day to restore water capacity.

In 2010, under a \$2.5 million grant, the Service Authority will expand its water treatment plant to increase its output to 700 gallons per minute from its current 359 gallons per minute capacity. Some water interruptions can be expected during 2010 as replacement of equipment is made in underground pressure-reducing systems.

Much of the discussion centered on improving communication when outages are experienced or can be predicted (due to maintenance). It was agreed that Tim Costello and Chris Casey (new Communicating Secretary for Mountain Women) would stay in contact and that Chris would relay information to the membership. (Update: this communication has already been experienced and has increased information available to mountain residents).

2. Martha Misker presented an informative (and hilarious) presentation on the year-long program she has just completed to upgrade her credentials as a medic. Her program involved 300 classroom hours, 280 hospital hours, and 400 ambulance runs. She is now registered nationally. We are indeed fortunate to have Martha as a member of the Wintergreen Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Barkley,
Recording Secretary

Mountain Women

Minutes

Trillium House, 12 February 2010

The meeting was called to order by Acting President Barbara Porter at 10:30 a.m. with approximately 20 in attendance.

Laurel Springs was thanked for hosting the meeting and providing refreshments.

New members attending were Michelle Clark (2063 Stone Ridge) and Sue Solomon (33 Trillium Place).

Members with February birthdays were serenaded. They included: Lois Conrad (2/7), Ginny Morton (2/8), Kathy Knowles (2/9), Irma Graf (2/10), Nancy Taylor (2/17), Carolyn Wood (2/21), and Susan Montgomery (2/27).

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as distributed via email.

The Treasurer's report was postponed.

President's Report. Barbara Porter reported that as a result of the January Steering Committee meeting, a task force would be established (see under New Business in these minutes), to research mountain emergency evacuation plans and procedures.

Group Reports.

Gardening. Vera reported that the group was taking a winter break given the amount of snow covering mountain gardens. This group normally meets on the third Friday of each month.

Book Club. The next meeting of the book club was announced for Monday, February 15th at Kathy Knowles' house at 1:30 p.m... Two books of Earl Hamner would be discussed. This group meets on the Monday following the Mountain Women meeting.

Handwork. The group was snowed out in January, but is scheduled to meet at Joan Stemmler's house on Friday, February 26th at 9:30 a.m. This group meets on the fourth Friday of each month.

Epicurious. The next meeting is scheduled for April.

Support Group. Nanci Taylor had requested that the group observe a moment of silence at 11:30 a.m. at the time that the Claire Owen memorial ski run was scheduled to begin.

Announcements

Ellen English reported on the cat rescue program in which homeless cats on the mountain are trapped and fixed. She provided a handout with information for those interested. To date about 28 cats have been caught and there are about 20 more to go. These latter cats are the more challenging. Residents can help Ellen by identifying a cat by its color and size as well as where and when it was seen. All cats that have been caught, fixed, and released have had their left ear clipped for identification purposes. Volunteers are needed to monitor traps, transport traps with cats in them to the clinic, picking them cats up from the clinic and providing one to two days of care and socialization. Generally females require two nights, males only one. Adoption is always

an option and kittens can be fostered and socialized. She also asked for any volunteers to make drop traps. Ellen will forward posters about kittens who are available for adoption. Donations may be made to SPCA Almost Home/Fund a Fix Wintergreen. Pet Smart was scheduled to present an Adopt-a-Thon weekend on Saturday in Charlottesville and Sunday in Waynesboro. Volunteers were welcome. Finally, Ellen has information on the option to adopt a feral cat as an outdoors cat. Barbara and members applauded Ellen's efforts in taking on this issue. Ellen can be reached at 325-2012 or rosa-ellen@verizon.net for more information.

Diane Crannis announced that she is forming a Mah Jong group that will meet on first and third Thursdays from 1:00-4:00 p.m. For more information, contact Diane at 325-7728.

Trivia Night, hosted by Jan Thompson, is scheduled at Trillium House for Wednesday evening, February 24th at 5:30, with all proceeds going to the Wintergreen Nature Foundation. Registration is limited to 40.

"First Tuesday" is an opportunity to socialize with your neighbors over dinner at the Edge. The group is very informal, no reminders, no reservations, just arrive about 6:00 to 6:15 p.m.

Nanci Taylor reminded members about the Magic Music Ball/Vienna to be held at Veritas on April 23. Invitations will be mailed out about March 4. She also mentioned the waltz classes that will be provided on five Mondays from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. More information can be found at the [Wintergreen Performing Arts](http://www.wintergreenperformingarts.com) website.

The Wintergreen Nature Foundation winter program series, plagued by snowy weather, is scheduled for Saturday February 13 and Saturday March 20 at Nelson County High School at 7:00 p.m. The series, *A Cradle for Democracy*, features two original plays by Doug Coleman. Both plays juxtapose events on the national scene with what is going on in the county (Amherst at that time). The first play deals with commerce, the Constitution, and the Louisiana Purchase. The second, with the Lewis and Clark Expedition, ends with the formation of Nelson County. Tickets may be purchased through the Nature Foundation or at the door. For more information, contact the Wintergreen Nature Foundation

If you have extra, individually-wrapped, tea bags at home, especially of the more herbal type, please consider donating them to the Mountain Women meeting supply box kept in the back of the kitchen at Trillium House.

Old Business

Chris Casey was thanked for her partnership with the Nelson County Service Authority which provided useful information following the January Mountain Women meeting.

A letter of thanks was received with regard to Mountain Women support of Wounded Warrior Weekend. In addition, it was reported that a volunteer ski instructor from Chapel Hill for that weekend, commented on how kind, giving, warm and open people from Wintergreen were during that event.

New Business

[See President's Report]. Barbara Porter asked for volunteers to research the mountain's emergency evacuation plans and procedures. Susan McIver and Cindy Morris volunteered. Cindy will ask Irma Graf if she is interested in joining the group.

The next meeting of Mountain Women is scheduled for Friday, March 12. The Springs will host the meeting and Springs Neighborhood Chair, Yvonne Behm, has scheduled a book exchange (bring one, take one; bring two, take two...)

The business meeting was adjourned at 11:03.

Program

Lois Conrad presented a fascinating program on autobiographies and the study of this genre. In so doing, she illustrated how autobiographies were works written to match the cultural expectations of their times. Initially, they were whole lives written out as examples of how to live the “perfect” life. They were meant to teach, how to live a moral life. Even as they began to encompass patterns in a less broad sense (hero, journey, salvation, confession, war hero, self-made man, etc.), they still presented “here’s how to live your life” and authors were dominated by white, Christian, mostly upper-class men. Notions of gender, class, and sexual identity that didn’t match cultural expectation did not provide these models to live by. Those individuals, therefore, who fell outside of the norm (slaves, women, etc.), had to find other ways to express themselves as the cultural expectation was for slaves to present themselves as subservient, women as domestic, and pioneer women as romantic, and professional women as concerned with good works, not wealth.

The tension becomes the contrast between the public and the private image and the moment at which the real self is expressed.

A critical study of autobiography may consider questions such as: can one be the subject and the object of the same sentence, or can you be both in and of the culture; what is the role (and reliability) of memory; what is the effect on the “truth” if only one point of view is expressed with nothing from the outside affirming the perspective; and what are the effects of time and space issues, does the truth being presented change with experience. The reader should note how both the public and private self are expressed, how style tries to bridge the gap between the audience and the eye; how the writing is used to comment on and effect the culture, and how the creative process of self creation is revealed either consciously or unconsciously.

In reading an autobiography, the reader is trying to find the real self of the author and will often find that self-revelation in the gaps. The true autobiographical moment occurs when the individual differs from the cultural script. The act of writing is a means of finding one’s own self.

Mountain Women Minutes Friday, 12 March 2010

The March monthly meeting of Mountain Women was called to order by President Barbara Porter at 10:36 a.m. with approximately 21 in attendance.

The Springs Neighborhood was thanked for providing the refreshments and the program for the meeting.

New member Joyce Smith (170 Deer Springs Lane) was introduced. She and her husband Dale live in Alexandria and are part-time residents on the mountain.

March birthdays were announced and serenaded:

Karen Sykes (3rd), Yvonne Behm (5th), Louise Caesar (7th), Georgia Orphan (8th), Betsy Agelasto (9th), Vera Jones (14th), Lilly Schmiedtke (18th), Joyce Claman (23rd), Ann Brooks (24th), and Marylou Thibodeau (25th).

Acceptance of the minutes of the February meeting was moved and seconded. Chris Casey was asked to send out future minutes both as an attachment and with text imbedded in the message.

Barbara Marker, Treasurer, reported that the Treasury balance was \$449.00.

President's Report

1. The Mountain Women will be in the front of the next edition of the *Wintergreen WVA & MHA Member Directory* in the same area as the information about Mountain Homesteaders and the Valley Association. Thanks to Cindy Coy for initiating the addition and Christine Casey for assisting in the process.
2. Barbara commented on the several emails that provided information about Nelson County Service Authority and its work resolving recent leaks. She briefly outlined the issues caused by several individuals replying to the Mountain Homesteader's information emails about the leaks. Members were reminded not to "reply all" and not to turn informational emails into a public forum airing personal issues. Mountain Homesteaders has taken steps to keep the problem from occurring in the future.

Group Reports

1. **Gardening.** The group, which meets on the third Friday of each month, will meet at Vera Jones' house (193 Raven's Roost Lane) on Friday, 19 March, at 10:00 a.m.
2. **Book Club.** The club meets on the Monday following the Mountain Women meeting. They will meet on Monday, 15 March at 1:30 at Marti Szczur's house (366 Blackrock Circle) and will discuss the three Earl Hamner titles that got "snowed out" in February.
3. **Handwork.** This group meets on the 4th Friday of each month. The February meeting was held at Joan Stemmler's. The March meeting is scheduled for Friday, the 26th, location TBA.
4. **Epicurious.** The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 8 April at Cindy Coy's (59 Ash Lane), tentatively at 10:00 a.m. and will be a planning meeting. If you currently are not on the email list for this group, please email Cindy Coy (ccoymtg@msn.com).

Announcements

Elaine Venn, of Staunton (known by many members through the activities of the water aerobics group, etc.) died on 7 March. Her funeral was scheduled for the afternoon of 12 March.

WPI Report. Cindy Coy reported that the resort has experienced a good ski season, but that expectations should be tempered by the knowledge of how and where funds need to be expended. Some of the more low-cost capital improvements that had been deferred will be reinstated, mostly painting, upkeep, and signage; \$5 million in reserves have been realized during the season; staff benefits have been reinstated including salary levels and some of the 401K benefits. The membership drive that will conclude at the end of March has seen over 40 new members, 50% of whom have joined as equity members. Many positive compliments have been shared about the staff which speaks to quality training. Much of the improvement has occurred due to good management, with resort use up, but expenditures down.

Old Business

1. **Evacuation Task Force.** There was no official report as none of the members of the taskforce (Susan McIver, Cindy Morris and Irma Graf) were able to attend. Martha Misker provided additional information concerning federal law that governs the number of entrances allowed onto the Blue Ridge Parkway. After some discussion, Martha agreed to join the taskforce.
2. **Telephone Tree.** Discussion of the efficacy of the phone tree led to the issue's placement on a Steering Committee agenda for its April meeting.

New Business

Joan Stemmler agreed to be the liaison with WPOA and Cindy Coy with WPI so that reports could be provided at Mountain Women meetings.

The business meeting was adjourned by the President at 11:10 a.m. It was followed by a book exchange in which members brought in books and gave homes to new ones. All agreed that the exchange was a great idea.

Mountain Women, Minutes Friday, 9 April, Trillium House

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Porter at 10:30 a.m. with approximately 27 in attendance.

The Black Rock neighborhood hosted the meeting and was thanked for the refreshments.

No new members were present.

Sylvia Stafford announced that name tags for members who joined between January and March are available in the folder.

Birthdays for April were announced and those present were serenaded with "Happy Birthday":

Dahne Morgan – April 12
Ellen Hampton – April 5
Susie Atton – April 7
Pat Thompson – April 7
Lois Armel – April 11
Jill Toop – April 15
Lisa Garber – April 27
Eva Blum – April 28

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted as distributed.

Cindy Coy provided the Treasurer's Report in Barbara Marker's absence:

The balance is \$387 after the April room rental was paid and before the April dues were totaled.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Steering Committee originally had been going to take up the telephone tree issue, but it was decided that that would not be necessary. The President will speak with the individual neighborhood chairs to review how the process should function.

GROUP REPORTS

Gardening. Members of the garden club received information at the last meeting so that they could visit a variety of gardening shops in the area. If anyone would like to have company in doing so, please contact Vera Jones. The May meeting will feature a trip, and details will be announced in the near future. The gardening group meets on the 3rd Friday of every month.

Book Club. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 19 April at 1:00 at Mary Ellen Condon-Rall's house (224 Blackrock Circle). The book club meets on the Monday following the Mountain Women meeting.

Epicurious. The group had its annual planning meeting on Thursday, April 8th. The group's next program will be on June 17th with Martha Misker teaching the group how to make piecrust. Linda Harrington is seeking volunteers to cook or chair a cooking group to feed students at the music

academy this summer. More information will be provided at a later date. In addition, Epicurious will sponsor an offering at WPA's events fair, a summer preconference buffet.

Handwork. Handwork meets on the 4th Friday of every month. A hostess is needed for the April 23rd meeting. Please contact Sarah Scott if you can host the April meeting.

Support Issues. Bruce and Jean Bertelsen have recently welcomed to the family their first grandchild, a boy, born in Minneapolis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kate Allenbach wants to form a new group to help with the soup kitchen the homeless/almost homeless in Waynesboro. Volunteers will cook, serve and cleanup. The next date is the second Monday in May (May 10th). This outreach is ongoing, occurring about once every 6 weeks from 10:00 a.m. (leaving the mountain at 9:15 a.m.) to 1:00. If you can not work at the soup kitchen and would like to donate food, please contact Kate at 325-9292.

Ellen English is in need of dry cat food (particularly kitten food) to support her work with the feral cat issue on the mountain as well as to support Almost Home. It was suggested that coupons for cat food from the Sunday paper would also be helpful. Please contact Ellen at 325-2012 to arrange to drop off monetary or food donations.

Hazel Griffith announced that she has done an extensive study of companies delivering propane to the mountain. Among the six companies, there can be a \$.20 to \$.60 difference in cost. Please contact Hazel at 325-9053 for more specific information.

Joan Stemmler announced two upcoming hikes led by Dahnne and Chip Morgan, one to Pine Knot (the summer home of Theodore Roosevelt and his wife) plus a birding tour. Please contact Joan for details (325-7769).

Cindy Coy shared information about the NCSA water message that she sent out in Chris Casey's absence. Barbara Porter indicated that she will be checking with the authority for further clarification of language used in the e-mail, particularly of the meaning of "extreme conservation measures."

Cindy Coy announced that the Nature Foundation's Wildflower Symposium is scheduled for the weekend of May 14-16. Please contact Cindy if you are able to volunteer to help out during that time (325-9144). She also asked that you complete the recent TWNF e-mail survey even if you are already a volunteer. She will send the survey out to you again if needed.

Glenna Martin is offering an early opportunity to purchase WPA raffle tickets at her house on Tuesday 13 April and Thursday 15 April (see email from Cindy Coy, dated April 8th for more detail). If you can not visit Glenna, please call her at 325-7447 to arrange to drop of a check for a specific item.

Some members were unaware of the recent shootings on the parkway. It was noted that the *Nelson County Life* web site (<http://www.nelsoncountylife.com>) offers an alert service. By submitting your email address, you will receive not only weather alerts, but also alerts about breaking-news in the county – accidents affecting traffic as well as late-breaking news items such as alerts about the shootings.

WPOA. Joan Stemmler reported that she had met with Russell Otis. Nothing new has occurred; the economy is still the driver. The snow cleanup cost \$70,000-\$100,000 per week and the reserve has been used up, although it will be built up once again. WPOA is being very proactive with regard to water system repairs, but there will be no entirely new system. [See January 2010 Mountain Women minutes for more detailed water planning information.] Russell assures us that we will not run out of potable or fire water which take priority over ski and golf course water.

WPI. Cindy Coy reported that WPI ended the fiscal year with \$3-3.5 million in cash, approximately \$1.5 million more than 2009. The increase came from a successful ski season, but also from productivity and cost savings measures undertaken during the year. Efforts will be made this spring to enhance the “face” of the resort. Conference bookings remain about the same as last year. The Board will be meeting soon to set the budget for the next year and it is expected to be about the same as the previous year.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Evacuation Taskforce Update.** Susan McIver reported that the taskforce is planning to invite Curtis Sheets to speak at an upcoming Mountain Women meeting in order to share where Wintergreen is at the moment with regard to its evacuation plan, where it has come from and where it hopes to be in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Water Update.** Water testing on the clear wells will begin on April 19th and last for five days; some water outages may occur during that time. Following that, work will begin on the pressure reducing vaults. Outages will occur during that phase of the work. Areas to be effected will be notified in advance.

The next Mountain Women meeting will be held at the Chestnut Springs Pavilion on Friday, May 14th at 10:30 a.m. Devil’s Knob neighborhood will be hosting the meeting

The business meeting was adjourned by the President at approximately 11:10 a.m.

PROGRAM

Lynnda Gilliam introduced Lydia Gwaltney from Stedman House in Nellysford. Stedman House is the oldest interior design firm in Virginia with offices in Roanoke, Richmond, Charlottesville, and Nellysford. Lydia, from Luray, graduated with a degree in interior design from Bob Jones University and interned in the Charlottesville office before coming to Nellysford. She brought with her several lamps illustrating different design styles as well as swatch books and designed books. Following a brief series of questions from members, all were invited to look at these materials and share their questions with Lydia.

**Mountain Women
Minutes, May 14, 2010**

The May meeting of Mountain Women was called to order by President Barbara Porter at 10:30 a.m. at the Chestnut Springs Pavilion. There were approximately 24 in attendance.

The Devil's Knob neighborhood was thanked for hosting the meeting and providing the refreshments.

No new members attended the meeting.

Cindy Coy announced the May birthdays:

Renee Acosta – May 6

Margaret Adams – May 15

Lee Klousia – May 25

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as distributed.

Barbara Marker, Treasurer, reported that the treasury balance was \$505.00.

Cindy Coy made the following motion: The Epicurious Group, in order to help defray its increasing costs for the December brunch, will be able to receive some funding/reimbursement from the Mountain Women Treasury. The motion was moved, seconded, and approved on a unanimous voice vote.

There was no Steering Committee or President's report for the month of May.

Group Reports:

1. **Gardening Club.** Jill Toop reported that the group will visit Boxwood Gardens in Lexington on Friday, 21 May. Please meet at the mailboxes at 9:30. Lunch will be at the Sheraton Livery. If you are interested in attending, you may contact Jill (gctoop@aol.com; 325-9082) or Vera (jchuck5@verizon.net; 325-9256). On June 18th, the group will meet for the annual weeding of the Lady Bird Johnson garden behind Devil's Grill followed by lunch at the Grill. Be sure to wear waterproof shoes/boots.
2. **Book Club.** The Book Club will meet at Marti Szczur's house (366 Blackrock Circle) on Monday, 17 May at 1:00 p.m. The book for May, in keeping with the year's detective theme, is P. D. James' *A Taste for Death*.
3. **Handwork.** Sarah Scott reported that the handwork group will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Friday 28 May at Vera Jones' house (193 Raven's Roost Lane) with Jill Toop providing refreshments. The June meeting will be on Friday, the 25th at the home of Terri Brooks (14 Tyro Court).
4. **Support/Celebration.** While there were no new opportunities for support or celebration, Cindy Coy did note that May 21st is the one-year anniversary of Tracy Morgan's death.

5. **Evacuation Task Force.** Susan McIver reported that Curtis Sheets would be the speaker at an upcoming Mountain Women meeting. Due to the Music Academy program scheduled for the July meeting, it was suggested that Curtis come to the August meeting. In Martha Misker's absence, Barbara Porter will contact Curtis to see if August will fit his schedule.
6. **Epicurious.** Sylvia Stafford reported that Epicurious will sponsor an event in the Wintergreen Performing Arts events fair. Cindy Coy and Joyce Claman will host a pre-pops concert buffet on July 14th. A planning meeting for that event will be held on 26 May at 10:00 a.m. The June meeting will be held on Thursday the 17th at Martha Misker's (1411 Laurel Springs Dr.) and she will be teaching the group how to make pie crust. Details will be forthcoming. In August there will be a sunset picnic on Thursday the 12th, hosted by the Coys. Details will be made available at a later date.

Announcements:

1. **First Tuesday dining:** In case the Edge is closed when arriving for First Tuesday dinner, the group will move to the Copper Mine whose new menu is very nice.
2. **Bear Smart Council:** Sarah Scott reported that while we are still being vigilant, there have been no bear reports this year to date. Some individuals have seen bears in their yards, but they have been doing "bear things." If you see bears, please report to Wintergreen Police when, where, and what they're doing. The Police Department will share the information with the Bear Smart Council.
3. **Marti Szczur** passed out brochures for the Grace Church (Keswick/Cismon) Historic Farm Tour, scheduled for June 19th from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. For tickets and further information go to <http://www.gracefarmtour.org>.
4. Susan McIver invited members to stop by the horse show scheduled for Saturday, 15 May at the Ruritan Park on Rte. 151.
5. Nancy Taylor reminded members that the [WPA Wine Festival](#) will be held on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend from 12:00 until 5:30.

Tickets are available on the [website](#) or at the door. Ticket booklets for the summer festival are in the mail. If you do not receive one or need an additional copy, they will be available at the Nature Foundation and at the front desk in the Mountain Inn.

If you can house a musician this summer, please contact Nancy Neville (325-9848; wan@neville.com). While some musicians are here for the better part of the month of July, some of the guest artists will need accommodations for shorter periods of time.

Old Business:

1. **Water Project Information:** Almost all those attending indicated that they were please/satisfied with the information about the water project that was being provided.

New Business:

1. **WPOA.** Cindy Coy shared brief information about the new community calendar under development by WPOA. Each participating organization can designate one or two individuals who will be able to add events into the calendar. Entries include the name of the event, date, time, a description, as well as cost and contact information. Barbara Porter will ask Chris Casey to look into this. Marty Szczur mentioned that the information about the calendar might be in the *Link*.
2. **WPI.** Cindy reported that Devil's Grill is still looking for a new chef.

The business meeting was adjourned by the President at 10:55 a.m.

The June meeting is scheduled for Friday, 11 June at 10:00 a.m. at the Chestnut Springs Pavilion. Laurel Springs will be hosting the meeting. The program is TBA.

Program Notes:

The guest speaker for the May meeting was introduced by Pat Harvey.

Boomie Pederson was born and raised in NYC and was for many years a professional-track scholarship student with the Joffrey Ballet. She gave up dance to attend Princeton University where she majored in English and Theater and won the Frances LeMoyné Paige Prize at graduation, for both theater and dance. She spent ten years on and off in Japan, where she did professional voiceover work, ran Tokyo Theater for Children, and was actor, director and board member for Tokyo International Players. She spent a brief eighteen months in Los Angeles where she was involved in the Asian Theater Lab and acted in the premier performance of the *Widescreen Version of the World* by Han Ong.

When she relocated to Charlottesville in 1995, she became involved at Live Arts. She also worked with the Nelson County Drama Foundation and mounted an outdoor production of Earl Hamner's *The Conflict* at Mountain Cove Vineyard in 1998 and 1999. She has worked with Offstage Theater, 4 County Players, and PVCC, and has taught theater at the Renaissance School in Charlottesville. She is currently the co-artistic director (with Peter Coy) of the Hamner Theater.

Boomie shared a very interesting look at theater in Nelson County, specifically the Hamner Theater and its productions (both drama and musical cabarets), a look at the annual summer playwright conferences which provide a place for writers to come and develop a piece along with actors, and upcoming collaborations with Sweet Briar College to foster screenwriters in the art of screenwriting.

Members who were not currently on the Hamner Theater email list signed up to receive its newsletter. As the Hamner Theater moves to establish its own 501 (c) 3 status, it is looking for Board members as well as additional funding to support its activities as it is now operating outside of its normal grant funding.

Boomie stressed that theater is about community and collaboration. Because of the growing number of venues providing activities, she has formed the Theater Guild (just held its third meeting) to coordinate schedules, if for no other reason.

Following her presentation, Boomie answered several questions from the group. She also indicated that if Mountain Women were interested, it would be possible to organize a matinee presentation for the group.

Upcoming productions include *Midsummer Night's Dream* as part of the Nelson County Shakespeare Festival and monthly cabaret programs (June 5 features Bluesonia). In addition, a program entitled *Letters to Mozart* will be a featured WPA summer festival program.

Mountain Women

Minutes, June 11, 2010

President Barbara Porter called the June meeting of Mountain Women to order on Friday, June 11th at 10:36 a.m. with approximately 27 in attendance. She thanked the Laurel Springs neighborhood for hosting the meeting.

1. New member, Hillary Partridge, introduced herself. Originally a native of England, Hillary came to Pennsylvania twenty-six years ago. She is a pediatrician. She and her husband are currently building a house on the mountain and hope to retire here in the future.
2. Helen Eisenhart announced the June birthdays:

Susan McIver (1st); Gwynn Cain, Joy Leman, and Eloise Strand (5th); Christine White (18th); Sue Carlson (20th); Anne Decker (22nd); Joanne White (23rd); Arlene Stone (27th); Lynn Luessen and Barbara Martin (28th); and Camille Kurtz (30th). Camille was serenaded with "Happy Birthday" as she was the only "birthday girl" present at the meeting.

3. The minutes of the May meeting were approved as distributed.
4. There was no President's report.
5. The Treasurer's report will be made at the July meeting.
6. Group Reports:
 - a. Garden Club: The Garden Club will be meeting on Friday 18 June to weed the Lady Bird Johnson garden located below the terrace of the Devil's Grill. Please meet at the garden at 9:30 a.m. and bring gloves, and your favorite weeding tools. The group will have lunch at the Devil's Grill following completion of their work.
 - b. Book Club: The Book Club will be meeting on Monday 14 June at the home of Suzie Patton (155 Devil's Bend). The reading for June will be Wilkie Collins' *Moonstone* and Edgar Allan Poe's *Murders in the Rue Morgue*. In keeping with this year's mystery theme, the featured titles are some of the earliest publications in that genre.
 - c. Handwork Group: The Handwork Group will meet on Friday, 25 June at the home of Terri Brooks (14 Tyro Ct.).
 - d. Support Group: It was reported that Yvonne Behm recently had a pacemaker inserted, but should be home soon.
 - e. Epicurious Group: Epicurious will meet at the home of Martha Misker (1411 Laurel Springs Dr.) to learn how to make pie crust. Please bring a rolling pin and \$5.00 as

reimbursement for food supplies. Please also bring a salad to share. The goal will be to make a quiche for brunch which will be accompanied by a salad and dessert. The hands-on portion of the meeting is limited to 10, but more are welcome for lunch. Please contact Martha (325-7585) if you plan to attend.

In addition, Epicurious will be sponsoring one of the events in the WPAI events fair, a Pop Over for the Pops Mid-Summer's Bounty buffet at either Joyce Claman or Cindy Coy (limit of 30 guests per house). The cost will be \$50.00 per person. Volunteers to setup and/or take down are more than welcome.

7. Announcements

- a. Barbara Porter shared a flier from Ellen English about a lost dog, Flynn. We hope he will be restored to his family.
- b. Cindy announced that the Nature Foundation's annual golf classic is scheduled for Friday, 10 September. Volunteers are needed for the "closest to the pin" contest and those volunteering will get lunch, breaks, training and transportation as well as the ability to attend the dinner. This year, instead of having an auction of a lot of small things, the auction will include 10-15 larger items such as getaways. If you can provide one of these items, please let Cindy know (325-9144).
- c. Nanci Taylor reminded people about the upcoming events for this summer's music festival that will begin in the first week in July. See the [website](#) for more information. There are still some spots open in the cooking classes. The academy students will be performing at the July Mountain Women meeting.

8. Old Business

- a. Evacuation Task Force – see program notes below
- b. Bear Smart Committee. Sarah Scott reported that there has been bear activity since her report at the May Mountain Women meeting: one home break-in and one dog attack. Neighborhoods include White Oak and Warrior Run. Be sure to report bear issues including sightings to the Wintergreen Police Department.
- c. WPOA – no report for June.
- d. WPI. Cindy Coy reported that the resort has been upgrading painting and signage. In response to a question about the water quality of the indoor pool, she indicated that the pool had tested within acceptable standards. In response to a question about several piles of gravel, she indicated that these were staged materials for road resurfacing. In response to a question about the Mountain Inn pool, Cindy indicated that the pool has been/will be removed and will be replaced by a new patio area. A new chef has been hired for the Devil's Grill and a new menu is due out soon.

9. New Business

- a. On behalf of the Devil's Knob neighborhood chair, Cindy Coy asked if Mountain Women members were still interested in a candidate's forum and how, perhaps, it could be improved over last year's forum. There was general agreement about the

usefulness of the forum and after some discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved that Cindy and Sylvia Stafford would form an ad hoc planning committee to develop the format for the 2010 forum program. It was also decided to postpone the forum until the October meeting (Laurel Springs hosting) in order not to compete with the golf tournament on the date of the September meeting.

The next meeting of Mountain Women is scheduled for Friday, 9 July at Trillium House and will be annual academy student concert. The Springs will be hosting and Barbara Porter will check with Yvonne Behm to determine what assistance she might need.

The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:06 a.m.

Program

Martha Misker introduced Curtis Sheets, Chief of Wintergreen Fire and EMS. In so doing, she noted that 11 of his 20 years of experience were with Wintergreen. Curtis announced that he was open to answering questions from members, and that he would be talking about plans for safety on the mountain.

Evacuation Plan: The emergency exit to the Blue Ridge Parkway is a continuing issue. While he will continue to work on the issue, it is probably as good as it's going to get at the moment. The players have changed with the change from the Bush to the Obama administration and there is now political alignment between the Governor's Office and the President, which may offer some opportunity for reconsideration. A point of confusion in the past has been the conflicting messages to Washington: WPOA who wants egress only; WPI who has lobbied for a formal access point into Wintergreen from the Parkway in order to increase business. Reality is that the later couldn't happen as WPOA would be required to grant an easement, which they would not given security issues.

Wildfires: It is Curtis' view that wildfires of the crown variety, where the underbrush burns and the fire crowns into the canopy, are not likely on the mountain given the type of vegetation and hardwoods that grow here. The more likely scenario would involve brief closure of Wintergreen Drive. He is more concerned with the possibility of more long-term closures of Wintergreen Drive caused by tour bus accidents in the snow, a propane tank turnover, etc. that might require closure for 12-24 hours while Virginia State Police investigate the accident site.

Escape route: The escape route off Laurel Springs Drive is drivable with the exception of one tree which cannot be removed. The more likely scenario is that residents would be asked to park their cars on Laurel Springs and walk out the approximately 200 yards where they would be met by school buses from Augusta County and transported to emergency shelters in Stuart's Draft. The egress is at milepost 9.5 (Dripping Rock Overlook). In response to a question about Old Stoney Creek Road, Curtis' responded that that 2.3 mile route is not really an option as it is really rough with stream crossings.

Evacuation Plan: The current Evacuation Plan (many members have copies) is still valid. The idea behind the gathering point process is to organize "sheltering in place" at the Skyline Pavilion or the Wintergarden. These buildings are sprinkled, surrounded by asphalt (or no trees), and are concrete and/or steel construction and sprinkled. By using these two facilities, the Fire Department would need to protect only two buildings. In addition, there is a Pre-Attack Fire Plan for the mountain and valley areas which is updated annually. The plan includes specifications and location of staging equipment, helicopter staging, water sources, media headquarters, and emergency organization headquarters.

Warning Siren: David Orphan is chairing a taskforce looking into the best ways to notify residents of an emergency situation. Currently the front desk can place an automatic call to each extension (but that doesn't include houses) and Curtis or his office calls Tommy Stafford of the *Nelson County Times* to place the information on the website (<http://www.nelsoncountytimes.com>). In addition, visitors to that website may sign up for news alerts delivered via email that include weather and other emergency-related information.

Staffing: The Fire Department currently has five people on duty 24/7 (2 on the mountain/3 in the valley during the off-season; 3 on the mountain/2 in the valley during ski season). During the daytime, administrative staff adds an additional 3 people. Contracted EMS serving the entire county adds 4 more.

Fire Hydrants: In response to a question about the ability to find fire hydrants in the snow, Curtis replied that each plug had a red 36-48" reflector in its vicinity. There are 295 fire hydrants and only 2 people to take care of them. You can help in snowy conditions by "adopting" the fire hydrant closest to your house and keep it shoveled out. Currently approximately 20-27 hydrant markers need replacement. In response to a question about regular testing of fire hydrants, Curtis reported that the Nelson County Service Authority is responsible for testing all hydrants once a year and the

Fire Department is addressing the issue with them. In the past, when the Fire Department went ahead and tested the hydrants themselves, all had water, but when the water was turned back off after the test, the pressure reducing valve would crack.

Knox Boxes: These secure boxes, containing a key to your house, can be installed next to your power meter and a sticker can be placed on your door letting firemen responding to a fire know that a key is available (and so will not knock your door in). The boxes cost approximately \$180.00 and are installed by the Fire Department.

Cell Phone Update: Verizon has abandoned its plans for erecting cell phone towers and will be doing no further improvements in Nelson County. AT&T will be installing 2 new towers (vicinity of Water Works Lane) and replacing one of the two towers in the area of Fern Circle. This work will bring 4G service to the mountain. The best coverage right now is through Intelos who will be installing a tower across from the Ski Barn.

MW minutes 7/9/10

The July meeting of the Mountain Women started with the program. Larry Allan Smith introduced the five Academy students, who then gave a wonderful performance. He also expressed his deep appreciation to the Mountain Women, many of whom support the Music Festival.

We had a series of last minute substitutions for the business meeting. In taking notes, I, Vera, was a last minute substitute for Marti, who was a last minute substitute for Carolyn, until she, Marti, had to substitute at the last minute for Sue, who was a substitute for Barbara. I AM NOT MAKING THIS UP! (If you followed that trail, you probably will not complain about any of the rest of it.)

Margaret Adams brought a "Thank You" from Nancy Nevill, who arranges housing for the Music Festival. She is very appreciative of the many people who are willing to open their homes to the performers.

Marti thanked The Springs for hosting the meeting.

We have five new people: Teri Letteral, Sandy Meyer, Janie Kirkaby, Sara Dassance, Missy Kelly.

Barbara Marker and Sarah Scott have birthdays in July. We did not have a list, nor did we have the person who keeps the list, so we hope we didn't leave anyone out.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

The treasurer reported a total of \$603.30

CLUB REPORTS:

GARDEN CLUB - No meeting was scheduled for July to accommodate the Music Festival.

BOOK CLUB - The next meeting was on Mon. July 12th at Kate Allenbach's house, 1:00p.m.

EPICURIUS - The group is hosting a fund raising dinner for the music festival. Pop Over Before The Pops will take place July 14th before the Pops Concert. Sixty people will have a scrumptious summer buffet at the Coy or Claman residence. On Thursday, August 12th, the group will host a potluck supper at the Coys. That invitation is open to everyone.

Martha Misker wanted to make us aware that a tracking device is available for use on the mountain if deemed necessary for a person with Alzheimer's or a small child. This is a new addition to the considerable variety of medical equipment that can be borrowed when needed for a temporary condition.

Cindy Coy announced that Erica Wood, a former Mountain resident has died. Maurice Wood has gone to England to be with family for at least a month.

Cindy also reported that the Nature Foundation is having a Neighborhood Block Party, Saturday, August 14th, 5:30 to 7:30. Burgers and dogs will be served. Admission is free. Bring the family. Please do make a reservation, however, so they know how many to plan for.

There was praise for Wintergreen Friends, our community bulletin board. We are very grateful for the information shared there. Thanks, Barbara Marker, Ellen Hampton, and Ginger Fries.

We very much appreciate Sylvia Stafford, who took home the Mountain Women's falling-apart cardboard box, and organized it into two lovely plastic storage bins. Thank you, thank you.

Our next meeting is August 13th. Black Rock will host. The program will be a talk about the Meyers Briggs personality test.

Respectfully submitted,

Vera Jones

Mountain Women Minutes, 13 August 2010

The August 2010 meeting of Mountain Women was called to order by Vice-President, Marti Szczur at 10:26 a.m. at Chestnut Springs Pavilion with approximately 26 members in attendance. The Black Rock neighborhood was thanked for hosting the event and providing the tasty refreshments.

New Members: April Burke introduced herself. April is a WPI Board appointee and has been a property owner in 2002. When not enjoying her mountain home, she works in Washington, D.C.

Birthdays: Carolyn Barkley read Helen Eisenhart's list of August birthdays: August 14th, Pat Harvey; 16th, Marti Szczur; 20th, Cindy Cobb; 21st, Kathy Tardy and Lynnda Gilliam; 28th, Martha Wertz; 29th, Joanne Street; 30th, Martha Misker; 31st, Hazel Griffith

Minutes: The minutes for the July meeting were accepted as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Marker (while still counting!) estimated that the treasury totaled about \$725.00.

President's Report: In the absence of President Barbara Porter, there was no report for August.

Group Reports:

Gardening Group: The group will have a plant identification program at its next scheduled meeting, Friday, 20 August at 10:00 a.m. Vera Jones will be sending an email with details. Please plan to meet Joan Stemmler at the Nature Preserve trailhead. Wear shoes suitable for a rocky trail. A camera will be helpful to help preserve the identification of plants found on the trail.

Book Club: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 16 August at Sue Carlson's house (115 Tyro Lane) at 1:00. The book for discussion is G. K. Chesterton's *The Scandal of Father Brown*.

Handwork: The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 22 October at Sarah Scott's house (125 Valley View Lane) at 9:30 a.m. An email will be sent out closer to the date of the meeting.

Epicurious: The group sponsored a sunset supper at Cindy and John Coy's on the evening of Thursday, 12 August. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 7 October at Joyce Claman's house (19 Old Camp Lane) in order to plan the annual Mountain Women annual brunch. The time for the meeting will be announced at a later date. Please let [Sylvia Stafford](#) know if you are interested in joining the group or being notified of activities planned for the future.

Support Group: Marti extended the membership's sympathies to Carolyn Barkley on the recent death of her husband, Bo.

Announcements:

1. Lynnda Gilliam thanked all of members who volunteered during Wintergreen Performing Arts' summer music festival. She announced several upcoming WPA-sponsored events including the Blue Ridge Mountain Music Festival on 21 August and the International Wine Festival on Labor Day Weekend. There are still some activities available for purchase in the Events Fair, WPA's main fund raiser. You can call the main box office number for more information (325-8292).
2. Ellen English shared animal news including information about a cat that needs a temporary foster home until it is adopted, hopefully on Labor Day weekend. The Nelson County SPCA's 2nd Annual Nelson County SPCA/Almost Home Golf

Tournament will be held on 7 August at Stoney Creek Golf Club. Opportunities are still open to register as a player or sponsor or to provide a raffle item. Contact the SPCA at 263-7722 or email Ellen for more information.

3. Sarah Scott, on behalf of the Bear Smart Committee, thanked members for reporting any recent bear sightings. There is a significant problem with people in the condominiums feeding the bird and the Committee members may become active once again to help WPOA deal with the issue. In addition, there is a bear problem with one “little” bear in the Raven’s Roost and Valley View area. This bear has been reported frequently and given its young age, the plan is to try to tag him and relocate him (far away).
4. Anne Dowd reported that she is now working with Nelson County’s Habitat for Humanity. This group has just finished its 18th house, with a dedication planned for the 18th (19th?) of September, and has a strong partnership with the building trades’ classes at Nelson County High School. There are opportunities for individuals interested in serving on the board, or helping with publicity or financing.
5. Cindy Coy reminded members of the Wintergreen Nature Foundation’s block party planned for Saturday evening, 14 August from 5:30-7:30 at Trillium House. The event is open to both members and non-members, but please call Liz Salas (325-8169) at WNF to make a reservation. The Sarah Ott Memorial Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, 10 September, at the Stoney Creek Golf Course, as well as a 9-hole women’s event on the Mountain course. This is TNF’s major fundraiser. There are great prizes, and chances to win a free car on all par 3’s, plus an opportunity to win \$1,000,000 in the Shenandoah Valley Office Equipment Million Dollar Shoot Out. All proceeds support the Foundation’s ongoing educational and research project.

Cindy also mentioned the quilt featured on the cover of *Quilt Magazine*. The quilt was created by Plumtree Quilts (Midlothian, VA). The photo shoot was done at Cindy’s house and in lieu of location payment, Cindy was able to have the quilt donated and it can now be seen at the Nature Foundation where it will be raffled with proceeds going to the organization.

6. Martha Misker is a candidate for the WPOA Board.
7. April Burke reported that the WPA Board has initiated a Planning Committee to study resort financial issues in order to maximize assets.

Old Business

Sylvia Stafford and Cindy Coy are serving as an ad hoc committee to plan the annual candidate forum. The event is scheduled for Friday, 8 October, and more information will be available closer to the date of the meeting.

New Business

As Pat Harvey will be leaving soon to live in Paris for the next year, the Devil’s Knob neighborhood will need a new neighborhood chair. Please email [Barbara Porter](mailto:Barbara.Porter) if you are interested. This position is responsible for organizing 3-4 meetings per year, arranging for the refreshments and a program, as well as maintaining the neighborhood’s telephone tree for use in emergencies.

The next meeting of Mountain Women will be held on Friday, 10 September at the Chestnut Springs Pavilion at 10:00 a.m. Devil's Knob will be hosting the meeting and the program will be announced later.

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Marti Szczur presented a very interesting program on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator system. Copies of her handouts are attached to these minutes.

Mountain Women's Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2010
Chestnut Springs Pavilion

Vera Jones, standing in for Barbara Porter, opened the meeting.

Karen Chapman was introduced as a new member. She has been a teacher with Henrico County Schools and is now working with Nelson County High School. Her husband works for FEDEX. They live on Laurel Springs and own a dog named Jonah.

The minutes of the August were approved. Susan McIver, substituting for Carolyn Barkley, took the minutes of the meeting.

Barbara Marker presented the Treasurer's report. There is \$721.61 in the account.

Committee report:

Gardening: Vera Jones reported that on September 18, members will be able to tour Edible Landscaping, from 9 am – 5 pm. Tours will be held every hour. Vera will be at the mailboxes at 10 am and invites anyone interested in going to meet her there.

Book Club: Susie Patton said that the next meeting would be at Mary Ellen Condon-Rall's house (224 Blackrock Circle) on Monday, September 13. The group would be reviewing the book *Franchise Affair*.

Handwork: No meeting until October.

Epicurious: They are doing the planning for the Christmas luncheon.

Vera reported that Joan Stemmler's son was severely injured in an accident, resulting in paralysis. The last report is that he has gotten some movement back.

Vera stated that Martha Misker was running for the WPOA board. She is the only person who a mountain resident. It was agreed that having a member on the board who was a mountain resident was very important.

Announcement:

Hazel Griffith asked the members to support Tom Perriello in the November election. She announced (for Helen Eisenhart) the September birthdays: Diane Crannis (9/25), Joan Hines (9/25), Gwynn Litchfield (9/20), Marybeth Matthews (9/27), and Susan Moore (9/21).

She also mentioned that she and Margaret Adams would be going to the Greenbrier on Wednesday to celebrate her 88th birthday. She invited everyone present to join them. There would also be time for a tour of the Bunkers for folks who would be interested.

Kathy Gunner mentioned that she is trying to organize a trip for October 13-15 to New York City. It would include (a) a private tour by Lisa Hahn, of the Neue Galerie to view the exceptional collection of early twentieth-century German and Austrian art and design and include a two course lunch in the gallery café, (b) a lecture by Michael White during a three course dinner on a performance of Austrian and German selections. The cost of the tours, meals, and performances is \$330. Accommodations and transportation are on your own.

Barbara Marker announced that the Nature Foundation is having its chili cook-off on October 16 and needed entrants. October 22-24, the Foundation is holding the Décor & More in the Mountain Inn. People will be able to order living greens decorations. There is also a need for handcraft items to be donated for sale. A quilt (on display at Trillium House) is also being auctioned off. The drawing will be held at the annual meeting on October 23.

Susan McIver announced that the National Ruritan, in conjunction with AARP, was holding a food drive the week of October 11-18. She stated that all food items collected locally would be donated to the Nelson County Food Bank. She asked the members to please donate. She would be willing to pick up the items or members could drop them by her house at 103 S. Forest Drive. If you have any questions or need items picked up you may call Susan at 325-2095.

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts is currently having a display of quilts. This show will go through January. Another display at the VMFA is fine arts and flowers. Flower arrangers are putting together arrangements to go with specific paintings. Sarah Scott's daughter is one of the designers.

Anne Decker stated that Habitat for Humanity in Nelson County was dedicating its 18th house. The house was build with the help of the Nelson County High School technical program students. Habitat is in real need of volunteers. They hold a meeting every two months. Call Anne (325-9206) for further information.

Vera announced that the October meeting would be with the WPOA candidates. The members present made a motion and agreed that the meeting should be open to all mountain residents. It was further encouraged that all of members invite family and friends to attend.

It was moved and passed that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Susan B. McIver, for Carolyn L. Barkley

Mountain Women Minutes, 8 October 2010

The October 8, 2010 meeting of Mountain Women was called to order at approximately 10:30 a.m. at Trillium House with 46 in attendance for the second annual WPOA/WPI Candidates Forum. Past President Sylvia Stafford moderated the session whose purpose was to provide for Mountain Women members and residents to meet this year's candidates informally and to hear their opinions. Each candidate was provided with three minutes to present their key issues and priorities. These statements were followed by a 15 minute question and answer period. Although all attendees could ask questions of WPOA candidates, it was requested that only WPI members ask questions of WPI candidates.

WPOA Candidates:

1. Ralph Frink. Ralph is a valley resident. He and his family have returned to Virginia after spending five years in Connecticut and he appreciates the ability to ski and golf in the same day. He has had a career in sales which has taught him humility; the ability to accept "no" and to be happy when the answer is "yes." He cited experience in hiring and firing people. He teaches skiing on the mountain and understands the importance of interacting with visitors to insure that they will have a good time while here. He discussed his concern with the appearance of common areas, both on the mountain and in the valley including signage and vacant valley lots which need pine tree removal.
2. Martha Misker. Martha has been a resident since 1996 and was an original member of Mountain Women. Her primary issue is water, in particular the aging pipe infrastructure. She believes that it is time for WPOA to be an active participant on the Service Authority and that a strategic plan is needed to replace water pipes over time. An additional issue is The Seasons development at the corner of Wintergreen Drive and Blue Ridge Drive. The landscaping that is to be in place by the owner's meeting later this month has not been started and the property continues noncompliant to the terms of the building covenant. She also mentioned her concern about increased annual assessments and the need to replenish snow removal reserves and to provide increasingly expensive health care for employees and wondered about the need for a special assessment for some of these issues rather than an increased annual assessment.
3. Betty Green. Betty Green has been a valley resident for the past ten years. Her career is in real estate sales which provides her with daily interaction with both WPI and WPOA. She believes that this experience provides her with an appreciation for the community. While she offered no specific platform, she mentioned water delivery and storage as a major problem and suggested that WPOA have a strategic plan to provide for a solution in the future.
4. John Harrington. John is a current WPOA Board member who is seeking reelection. While he currently lives in the valley, he lived on the mountain for five years beginning in 1999. He spent 30 years in the Army. He identified water as a

major issue facing the community. Describing the situation as a “three-headed hydra,” he indicated that the current Service Authority/WPOA/WPI arrangement is uncomfortable. In addition, John works at Veritas which provides him access to what county residents are thinking. He believes that we need to continue to improve relations with the county as some tensions still exist. He shared his belief that WPOA, as our “city government” is well run.

WPI Candidates:

1. Larry Luessen. Larry has been a Wintergreen resident since April 2009. He divided issues into 4 categories: a.) Wintergreen as resort: guests, revenues; how to generate new revenue (example: zip line addition); judicious appropriations of fund; b.) Wintergreen as club: members; exclusivity issues and balance; how to draw in non-members; idea of members only club house; 3.) Wintergreen as community: water issue: 4.) Wintergreen as environment.
2. Ken Powell. Ken has been part of the Wintergreen community since 1993 and resides in Richmond. His background is as a lawyer and investment banker. As the latter he has significant experiencing in financing infrastructure projects. He indicated that we are fooling ourselves if we don't think we are a business. We must have a business orientation and indicated that we can no longer protect our value unless we're cognizant of what competitors are doing. He highlighted financial issues, the water issue, and the need for strategic planning.
3. April Burke. April, a resident of Alexandria, trained as a lawyer and was appointed to the WPI Board for one year. She believes that it is important to balance business with quality of life aspects and urges more transparency in the water issues to allow all groups to work together efficiently. She brings an external relations capability to her candidacy.
4. John Claman. John has leadership experience as President of both WPOA and WPA, not to mention 34 years in the U S. Navy. He indicates that Wintergreen's current issues are “all about the money” and understands the fragility of resorts in this economic environment. The key is to drive sustainable revenues, particularly in the seasons where revenues may be lower. He looks to grassroots organizations such as the Wintergreen Nature Foundation and WPA to drive revenue by attracting conventions and other activities.
5. Rodney Willet. Rodney has been visiting and enjoying Wintergreen since he was 12 years old. A lawyer, he began sharing the mountain environment with his family in 1998 and built a house here in 1999. He has a strong passion to introduce more families to this experience and to have more people make the same type of investment as he did. He is a “storyteller” who wants to reach out to the rest of the world and tell them Wintergreen's story.

Questions and Answers:

1. The WPI candidates were polled about what amenities they use. The majority indicated that they use them all, except for tennis.
2. What are the options for the water situation?
 - a. April: Look into how the Service Authority can fund improvements; look into bond authority and borrowing issues.
 - b. John C.: Dig more wells on the mountain to serve as emergency backups. Apply to bonding authorities to gain state and federal funding.
 - c. Ken: We get enough rainfall; the issues are delivery and storage; need to identify creative funding methods including bonds.
 - d. John H.: To reach build out of the community we will need another lake. The Rhodes farm site is under consideration and environmental issues and funding will need to be worked out.
 - e. Betty: Need to update and replace infrastructure.
3. Can we expect a rate increase like the additional cost to deal with the grinder pump issue?
 - a. Ken: Of the 171 entities that are responsible for water use rates in Virginia, Wintergreen is the 13th worst for sewer rates and the 5th worst for water rates. We must find funding for capital expenditures to increase storage capacity.
 - b. Rodney: Technology is also an infrastructure need and the systems backing up Wintergreen need improvement.
4. Is there an emergency plan for Wintergreen?
 - a. Martha: Yes, there is a detailed plan in place covering fires, floods and storms; a copy is provided to each new homeowner; it is formal, the routes are practiced and trails kept cleared.
5. Question about water and second lake concept [exact wording not recorded].
 - a. John H.: Legally WPI owns the land and WPOA has a scenic easement to ensure that the surroundings stay “natural.”
 - b. John C.: The Service Authority distributes water among the residents on the mountain; the valley has a different system. The issues are about both quality of life and safety. It is a priority to gain state and/or federal funding, perhaps including stimulus funds.
 - c. April: Before storage issues should be addressed, infrastructure [delivery] issues must be resolved.
6. Does WPOA have the ability to put teeth into the trimming of trees to improve view issues, etc?

- a. John H.: There have been two cases, resolved legally including fines.

Follow-up: How can we prevent the issue from occurring, rather than reacting to it after the fact? What about people who may feel that the “fine is worth the view?”

- a. Martha: The covenants are there, but there is little enforcement.
- b. Ralph: There is a potential fire issue in the valley with vacant lots that need to have pine trees cleared.

7. What about Rhodes Farm Stable?

- a. Ken: The issue is a financial one: is the stable is profitable as an amenity. It needs to be considered as part of a long term finance plan. Does it need to be a part of Wintergreen amenities? What is the intrinsic value that would warrant keeping it even if it isn't profitable?
- b. John C.: It is an issue of the business case and return on investment.
- c. Rodney: What assets entice people to come here (like zip line)? What is the whole revenue realized from a visit?
- d. April: Board has precise financial data about what makes money.
- e. Larry: It is important to remember that 360 people will be due money in 4 years and that payment needs to be part of any long term plan.
- f. Betty: Some amenities, like the Tree House, serve as loss leaders.

Follow-up: Could Rhodes Farm Stable be run with volunteers?

- a. April: Volunteers would be worth looking into with the understanding that there are insurance issues to this type of solution.
- b. Ken: There needs to be a balance between revenue generators, benefits to members, and intrinsic returns.
- c. Rodney: We need to understand what keeps us here and what will attract more visitors.

8. Is there an agreement that requires the road to be resurfaced within a specific time period following a repair (water, etc.) and are we being efficient with the costs of continued resurfacing? How can we keep this cost as low as possible so that the pass through to consumers will be as low as possible?

- a. John C.: It is the responsibility of the “diggee” to pave the road.

Mountain Women Business Meeting

The monthly business meeting was called to order by President Barbara Porter at approximately 11:35 a.m. with 23 members in attendance.

Thanks to the Devil's Knob neighborhood for the refreshments.

New members Janelle Carroll (Raven's Roost Pt) and JoAnn Zuercher (The Springs) were introduced.

Carolyn Barkley read the October birthday list and those present were serenaded:

Fran Bernard, Cindy Coy, Terri Brooks, Lola Pierce, Jean Davis, Ann Dowd, Shirley Brauning, Shirley Huff, Glenna Martin, Patty Roupe, Mike Williams, and Barbara Dunkerton

The minutes of the September meeting were approved with the following corrections:

1. Karen Chapman's husband's name is Dan.
2. It was Joan Stemmler's son-in-law, not son, who was injured recently.
3. The quilt display at the Virginia Fine Arts Museum opens October 9 and will continue through January.
4. Anne Dowd (not Anne Decker) made the announcement concerning Habitat for Humanity (wearing wrong name tag!!). Anne Dowd's phone number, if you wish to contact her about Habitat, is 325-7278.

Barbara Marker reported that there is \$656.00 in the Treasury after paying the October room rental, but not including October dues.

Barbara Porter announced that the Steering Committee, with Sylvia Stafford and Cindy Coy, will meet at 9:00 prior to the November 12th Mountain Women meeting.

Groups:

1. The Gardening Group will hold its annual native plant seed exchange at Georgia Orphan's (124 Valley View Lane) on Friday, 15 October at 10:00.
2. The Book Club will meet at Susan Thomas' (91 Wood Lily Lane) on Monday 11 October at 1:00. This month's book is Henry James' *Turn of the Screw*.
3. The Handwork Group will meet at Sarah Scott's (125 Valley View Lane) on Friday, 22 October at 9:30.
4. Epicurious met at Joyce Claman's on Thursday, 7 October to plan the Christmas luncheon (a change from brunch). An email will be sent with the date of the next meeting at which several dishes for the luncheon will be prepared in advance. This year's event will begin at 11:00 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m., with lunch served at noon. The February meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 10 February and it will be a planning meeting for 2011. Cindy Coy will check with the Nature Foundation concerning the rental rate for the luncheon and the cost to attend the luncheon will be finalized in the November Steering Committee meeting.

Announcements:

1. Please remember to fill out the information sheet that came in your water bill.
2. The Nature Foundation's plant propagation group will hold a sale in their greenhouse in the valley on Saturday, 9 October and the following Saturday, 16 October from 8:30-noon.
3. Cindy Coy announced that there are still a few places left for the Locavore Harvest Dinner on Friday, 22 October. Tickets are \$75.00 per person.
4. Barbara Marker reminder members of the Nature Foundation's Décor and More event (replacing Festival of Trees) will be held in the Mountain Inn from Friday, 22 October to Sunday, 24 October. You will be able to order live greens for pick up before Thanksgiving as well as purchase handcrafted and other fall-related items. In addition, please help Barbara staff the sales table from 1:00-5:00 on Friday, 9:00-5:00 on Saturday, and 9:00-1:00 on Sunday.

She also reminded members of the Nature Foundation's Fall Festival scheduled for the weekend of October 16.

5. Marty Szczur announced the availability of two new children's books in time for holiday giving: *The Little Book of Camel Sense* and *The Mini Book of Horse Sense*. They will be available in the Wintergreen General Store as well as other local locations. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Almost Home and/or the Wintergreen Nature Foundation.
6. Nanci Taylor brought to the group's attention that Sunday's date is 10-10-10 and that this month there are 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays, and 5 Sundays, an occurrence that happens only every 825 years.

The next Mountain Women Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Friday, 12 November at Trillium House and will be hosted by The Springs neighborhood.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Barkley, Recording Secretary

Mountain Women
Minutes, Meeting of November 12, 2010

The November meeting of Mountain Women was called to order by President Barbara Porter at approximately 10:32 a.m. with 25 members in attendance.

The Springs Neighborhood was thanked for the great refreshments.

There were no new members present.

November birthdays included Helen Jacobs (2nd), June Lyons (7th), Jean Bertelsen (10th), Kate Allenbach (12th), Beverly Bach (16th) and Gana Dunlop (21st). All those with October and November birthdays were serenaded with "Happy Birthday."

The minutes of the October were accepted as distributed.

Barbara Marker, Treasurer, reported a treasury balance of \$737.00.

President Barbara Porter reported on the Steering Committee meeting held before the regular meeting.

- The annual holiday luncheon will be held on Friday, December 10th at 11:00. Invitations will be sent out soon.
- Election of officers will be held at the luncheon, with three positions (three-year terms) up for replacement: Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Devil's Knob Neighborhood Chair. Marti Szczur has agreed to run for President; Camille Kurtz will run for Vice-President. If you are interested in serving as Recording Secretary or Devil's Knob Neighborhood Chair, please contact Barbara Porter (ports1999@aol.com, or 325-7314) before the December meeting.

Group Reports

- Garden Club – Thanks to the holidays, there will be no meeting until January. The group won a \$50.00 gift certificate from Millmont after Sue Carlson took a picture of the Lady Bird Johnson Garden and entered it into the Nelson County Garden Club contest. It will be used either to fund greenery for the holiday luncheon or as door prizes for the event.
- Book Club – The Book Club was scheduled to meet on Monday, November 15th at 1:00 at Barbara Porter's house. The book for November is *Gaudy Night* by Dorothy Sayers.
- Handwork – The group will hold its Christmas coffee at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, 21 December at Marti Szczur's house (366 Blackrock Circle). **Please note that this event will be on a Tuesday, not the normal Friday.** Sarah Scott is creating a new email list for the group. Please let her know of your interest in the group so that you will be included. Meetings are scheduled from January through April and October through December.
- Epicurious – Epicurious is providing the food at the Mountain Women holiday luncheon. A meeting will be held in February (date to be announced later) to plan events for 2011.

Announcements

- Members were encouraged to view the exhibit *Connecting with the Land* in the Nelson Room. The first phase of the exhibit has been completed and explores the archeology of the area. The second phase is starting and will be the Nelson County piece of the history of our connection to the land. See the latest issue of [The Link](#) for an article on the exhibit and the award recently presented to the Wintergreen Nature Foundation by the Council of Virginia Archaeologists.
- The annual Wounded Warrior weekend yellow-ribbon-making event will take place after the Mountain Women meeting on Friday, January 14th. Soup and salad will be provided for all who volunteer to help make the ribbons. Please contact Martha Misker (mmisker@verizon.net or 325-7585) if you will be able to help out that day. Also, housing is needed for those attending Wounded Warriors' Weekend. Please contact Cindy Coy (ccoywtg@msn.com or 325-9144) if you can provide housing.
- Wintergreen Performing Arts is presenting two events during December: Your Table is Ready! on Sunday the 5th at Tuckahoe Clubhouse from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.; and A Blue Ridge Christmas: The Virginia Consort on Sunday, December 12th at 4:00 p.m. at the Rockfish Presbyterian Church. Tickets for the latter program are selling quickly with about half of the 180 seats already sold. Information is available on the [WPA website](#)

Old Business – None

New business – None

The next Mountain Women meeting will be the holiday luncheon on December 10th at 11:00 at Trillium House.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:55 a.m.

The Springs neighborhood hosted a recipe exchange which provided everyone with great ideas for Thanksgiving and Christmas.