



MALA

Merifield Acres Landowner's Association

Clarksville, Virginia

www.merifieldacres.org

Fall 2021 Newsletter

Volume 8. Number 3

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Fall 2021 MALA Newsletter

Merifield Acres News

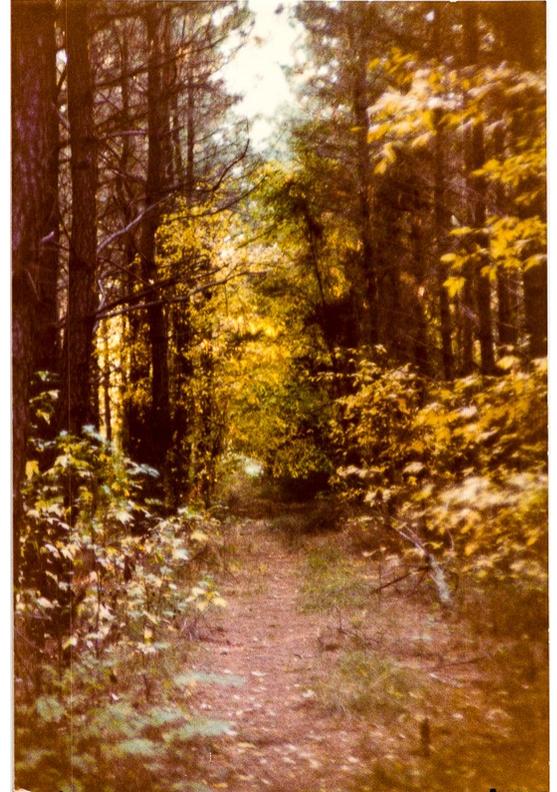
Merifield Acres Annual Meeting and Picnic

The Merifield Acres annual picnic and general meeting will be held on **Saturday, October 9th, at Oak Park Barn**. The potluck picnic will begin at **Noon**. Please bring a dish to share. Seating will be planned with appropriate social distancing at the picnic tables, or you may bring a folding chair. Please plan to bring and wear a face mask. Hand sanitizer will be available.

The general meeting will begin at **1:00 p.m.**

Merifield Acres 2021-2022 Directory

Thank you to everyone who has provided corrections or edits to the contact information contained in the Merifield 2021-2022 Directory that was emailed to residents earlier this month. If you have any corrections for the Directory, please contact Lee Baldwin, MALA Secretary, at lbaldwin01@aol.com (Lee plans to release a revised version of the Directory in January as numerous corrections were submitted with the ballots). For additions or corrections to the email distribution list, please contact Emily Howie at Emily.howie@halnorman.com. Note that you can now use the new [contact form](#) on the website to submit corrections for either the Directory or the email list, and that information will be forwarded to the appropriate person.



Highpoint Boulevard circa 1970

MALA Website News – Please Register for an Account!

Due to several phishing attacks and other security concerns, the Board has decided to limit access to certain sensitive information to subscribed members only. Personal accounts will now be needed to view certain material that the Board deems to be inappropriate for unrestricted audiences. This includes detailed financial information included in the meeting minutes, and any other information the Board decides to restrict to MALA members only.

Accordingly, our website has been redesigned to accommodate secure personal member accounts. Members will be able to create their own accounts, modify their user profiles, and reset their own passwords. Members who had accounts in the past have had their accounts upgraded and should be able to log in with their old passwords. If not, a simple self-service password change request can be made directly from the website.

2020-2021 Committees

Architectural Committee*

Alan Weyman, Chair

aweyman@hotmail.com

(434) 738-7233

Aviation

Rick Baldwin, Chair

Rbaldwin01@aol.com

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Beautification

Chip Overton

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Common Grounds Chair

Alan Weyman

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(434) 738-7233

Roads Chair

Mike Gupton

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374-2094

Database Assistant

Treasurer

Lee Baldwin

lbaldwin01@aol.com

Welcoming / Email Committee

Emily Howie

Emily.howie@halnorman.com

374-1590

Deer Control

Scott Diamond

374-5887

Security

David Hammer

HammerDavidA@aol.com

374-0967

* Architectural Committee must approve tree removal of live trees over 6"

Please go to <https://merifielddacres.org/my-account/register/> in order to set up your account. Since we must verify that each account applicant is indeed a Merifieldd Acres resident or property owner, you will need to enter either your Merifieldd street address or your property lot, unit, and section number. Your email address will also be needed in order to send your verification confirmation and to communicate with you about your account if needed. We will attempt to approve account applications within 24 hours, but that may not always be the case. You will note that there is a privacy policy to which you must agree before clicking the Register button.

Accounts will be manually approved after verifying your property address with your email address that you have on file with MALA. If you have never given MALA your email address, additional verification will be required. When approved, you will be sent an email indicating that your account is active and you can then log in.

The [MALA directory](#) is now available online to logged-in users only. This directory page sports a built-in search function that returns results as you type. You can search on any attribute (such as first name, phone number, street name, etc.). You may also sort the table by any column header as well.

We will be keeping this directory up to date, so it will have an advantage over the published directory (which is sent to all recipients on the newsletter mailing list). Please send any updates via the [Contact Us](#) page (newly revised and does not require an account).

If you click on the above link without being logged in, you will be directed to a page where you can either log in or register if you don't yet have an account.

Other new features are coming that will require an account, so please sign up for one soon!

One final note: The directory may not render properly on small mobile devices, even though the website is now optimized for mobile devices, as discussed below.

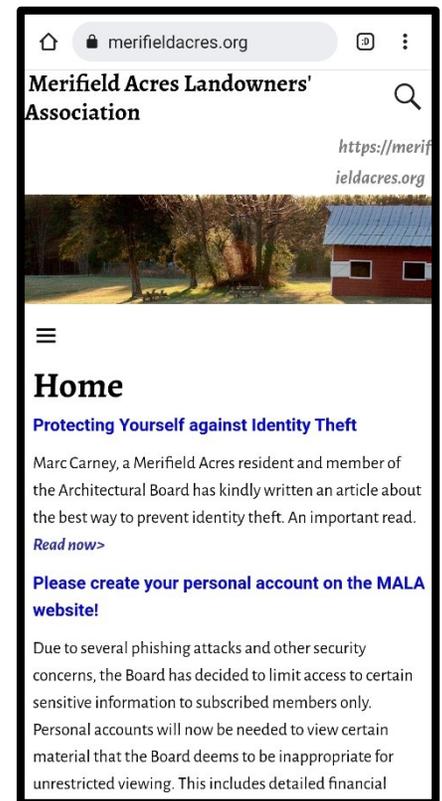
Please use the [Contact Us](#) page if you need to report any difficulty with your account or the site.

Please also reach us via the [Contact Us](#) form on this website if you have any content that you would like to share or see added to the site.

The website has been updated to properly accommodate mobile devices. While a few formatting issues remain, all major features will now work on smart phones and tablets. The regular menus are replaced with a "Hamburger Menu" which allows unlimited time to make selections. Pages which have multiple columns will stack those columns vertically if there is not sufficient width on your device to display them as originally formatted.

Imagination Library of Western Mecklenburg County Fall Campaign

Dolly Parton's *Imagination Library* is now providing books to the young children of Boydton, Buffalo Junction, Chase City, Clarksville, Nelson, and Skipwith. Merifieldd resident Judith Irvin and a steering committee comprised of current and retired educators and other literacy advocates has worked hard over the last few months to bring the *Imagination Library* to the local area.



EMERGENCY CONTACTS FOR FALLEN TREES

Call:

Kevin Hensley
434-210-1370

-or-

Kent Galvin
540-842-8902

[Facebook:](#)
[Merifield](#)

[\(Account is required\)](#)

[Clarksville Lake Country](#)

[Chamber of Commerce:](#)

<https://ClarksvilleVa.com>

Town of Clarksville:

<http://www.clarksvilleva.org/>

Virginia's Lake Region:

<http://www.virginiaslakeregion.com/>

The *Imagination Library* program provides registered children from birth to age five a new high quality, age-appropriate book each month at no cost to the family, regardless of income. Dolly Parton was inspired to create this program by her father who never learned to read. The initial program began in her hometown of Sevierville, Tennessee. Today, the *Imagination Library* is active in all 50 states and in some foreign countries gifting over a million books to children every month.

Sponsored by the Mecklenburg County Public Library Foundation, our local *Imagination Library* affiliate has introduced and publicized the program, as well as raised funds to support the program for the first year. Of the 683 eligible children in the area, 247 have been registered and are currently receiving books. The local community, including residents of Merifield Acres, have enthusiastically donated money to get books into the hands of children.

Dolly Parton's *Imagination Library* was awarded the top 2021 Library of Congress Literacy Award in September. Please see the following video message from Dolly:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSLI-FQo9uo>

Our *Imagination Library* affiliate is launching a campaign to raise \$85,375, which will fund the program for a full five years. During the period of September 15th to December 15th, an anonymous donor will match donations dollar for dollar up to \$10,000. If you would like to support this investment in our children's future, donations may be sent to the Mecklenburg County Public Library Foundation, P.O. Box 10, Boydton, VA 23917 and should be earmarked for the *Imagination Library*. You may also donate online by going to www.imaginationlibrary.com and choose VA-MECKLENBURG as the affiliate.

If you have questions, please contact Judith Irvin at 434-362-2034, irvinjudith@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone from Merifield Acres who has so generously supported the *Imagination Library* of Western Mecklenburg County!

Volunteers Work to Remove Dead Trees

Over the summer, volunteers worked to remove dead trees in Merifield. Thanks to Rick Baldwin and his backhoe, Phil Beck and his Kubota tractor, Bill Carroll, Jim Gordon, and Mike Gupton. Thanks go to all of them for working to assist all Merifield residents. If you see Rick, Phil, Bill, Jim, or Mike, please thank them!

Second Bee Swarm Box Installed Near the Merifield Apple Orchard

A second bee swarm box was installed in early summer near the Merifield Apple Orchard. The swarm box was provided by resident bee-keeper Sandy Parke and her husband Michael and was painted by resident Judi Irvin and her granddaughter Violet. Both the bee swarm box and smaller bee boxes (painted by Judi's granddaughter Hailey) were displayed in the window of the Virginia Avenue Mall in April.

Fox Sightings

During the summer several residents experienced an increase in fox sightings in their yards. Susan Clayton contacted me to



**Mecklenburg County,
VA – The Official
Visitors Guide:**

www.visitmeckva.com

Lake Map:

www.kerrlake.com/map/map.htm

Lake Country Regional Airport:

<http://lakecountryregionalairport.org/>

Lake Country SPCA:

<http://www.lakecountyspca.org>

Clarksville Government:

www.clarksvilleva.org/government

Occoneechee State Park

1192 Occoneechee Park Rd.

Clarksville, VA 23927

Phone: 434-374-2210

Email Address;

Occoneechee@dcr.virginia.gov

Website:

www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/occoneechee#general_information

say that Doug Blanton from Animal Control told her that these foxes tend to have the mange and are hungry as they are being driven out of their natural habitat and pursued by coyotes. Doug also said that if the foxes cannot heal from the mange by winter, they will usually die during the cold months.

MALA Board and Annual Meetings

Please mark your calendar now for the upcoming MALA Board Meetings scheduled the 2nd Tuesday of every EVEN month and held in the Hensley's garage: Left at the tennis courts, 2nd driveway on the right on Occoneechee Drive.

All Board Meetings start promptly at 7:00 p.m.

2021 Board Meeting Dates Remaining:

MALA Annual Meeting & Picnic – **Saturday, October 9th, Noon** at Oak Park Barn

Board Meeting – **December 14th, 2021**

Mecklenburg County/Virginia State News

Virginia 2021 Election Early Voting

Early voting for the Virginia 2021 Election began on Friday, September 17th, 2021. If you plan to cast your vote early in person at the Mecklenburg County Voter Registrar's office in Boydton, please note that the Registrar's office has moved to 439 Madison Street. The new voter site is the former home of the Bruce Library.

In the March 31, 2019, issue of the Merifield newsletter I wrote about the American diplomat and philanthropist David K.E. Bruce (1898 to 1977), whose family roots were in Charlotte County. Bruce, who was impressed with the philanthropic efforts of Andrew Carnegie to build libraries across the United States, gave money anonymously to build 11 libraries in Virginia beginning in Charlotte County in 1937. Other libraries were built in Halifax County (1938), Mecklenburg County – Boydton (1939), Lunenburg County (1939), Pittsylvania County (1939), Appomattox County (1940), Brunswick County (1940), Nottoway County (1941), Patrick County (1941), Franklin County (1941), and Hanover County (1942). The newly constructed library buildings were all built with the same design, including furnishings, equipment, and a basic collection of books. The Bruce libraries became an example for other parts of the state.



A Bruce Library from 1941.

Photo Courtesy of the Library of Virginia.

The Bruce Library in Boydton was the headquarters of the Southside Regional Library system for 73 years until it moved into its present location in 2012. Now the Bruce Library has been renovated to serve as the Mecklenburg County Voter Registrar's Office. Hours for the Registrar's Office are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Early voting will also be available on two Saturdays, October 23rd and October 30th, which is also the last day for early voting in Virginia.

Online Resources for eBooks, AudioBooks, Video, and Streaming Media

Mecklenburg County Public Library System

Did you know that two wonderful resources are available from the Mecklenburg County Public Libraries if you have a library card? One of the resources is Libby (Overdrive), which is a free service that lets you borrow digital content (like eBooks and audiobooks) anytime and anywhere. The other resource is Hoopla, which is a web and mobile platform that provides a wide range of digital content (eBooks, audiobooks, video, etc.) that patrons can download or stream to their phone, tablet, or TV. Contact the Clarksville Burnett Library and Learning Center at 914 Virginia Avenue, (434-374-8692) for more information or to obtain a library card.

Recent Article from Reader's Digest Detailing Online Sources for Free eBooks:

Here is an interesting article listing 15 sources that allow access to full-text books online for free:

https://www.rd.com/list/read-books-for-free-online?_cmp=stf

Recalls and Consumer Alerts:

DiGiorno Frozen Pizza Recall of Crispy Pan Crust Pepperoni Pizza Due to Mislabeling and Undeclared Soy Allergen:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/food/2021/09/27/digiorno-pizza-recall-pepperoni-pizza-three-meat-pizza-misbranding-allergens/5882960001/>

Coppertone Recalls Select Sunscreens Due to Presence of Benzene

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/shopping/2021/09/30/sunscreen-recall-coppertone-aerosol-cans-benzene-cancer-risk/5940228001/>

Boppy Company Recalls Over 3 Million Original Newborn Loungers:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/The-Boppy-Company-Recalls-Over-3-Million-Original-Newborn-Loungers-Boppy-Preferred-Newborn-Loungers-and-Pottery-Barn-Kids-Boppy-Newborn-Loungers-After-8-Infant-Deaths-Suffocation-Risk>

Harbor Freight Tools Recall to Repair Portable Propane Heaters Due to Fire Hazard:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Harbor-Freight-Tools-Recalls-to-Repair-Propane-Portable-Heaters-Due-to-Fire-Hazard-Recall-Alert>

PetSmart Recalls Top Paw Double Diner Dog Bowls Due to Laceration Hazard:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/PetSmart-Recalls-Top-Paw-Double-Diner-Dog-Bowls-Due-to-Laceration-Hazard>

Ravin Crossbows Reannounces Recall of White Arrow Nocks Due to Injury Hazard and Additional Incidents:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Ravin-Crossbows-Reannounces-Recall-of-White-Arrow-Nocks-Due-to-Injury-Hazard-and-Additional-Incidents-Nearly-Two-Dozen-Serious-Injuries-Reported>

Upcoming Clarksville and Area Events:

Special Events:

Harvest Day Festival – Saturday, October 2nd, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., downtown Clarksville. For more information, please see:

<https://clarksvilleva.com/harvest-day-festival-in-clarksville/#/>

Clarksville Ruritans Brunswick Stew – Saturday, October 2nd, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Call Ace Hardware at (434) 374-8629 to place order. Stew is \$7 per quart. Purchase six or more quarts and the price is only \$6 per quart. Orders can be picked up at the Ruritan Thrift Shop. Stew will also be sold in front of the Dollar General on Virginia Avenue.

Stone Soup Supper – Monday, October 4th, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Clarksville Community Center Parking Lot, 103 Woodland Drive. Sponsored by the Lake Country SPCA of Clarksville, the featured soups generously donated will be: Broccoli Cheese (Bridgewater Bar & Grill); Chili & Potato Ham (Vicki Garrett); and Vegetable Pasta Soup (Four Oaks Restaurant & Lounge). Desserts and breads (Simple Creations by Jennifer Pennington). Drive through and pick-up only. Donations gratefully accepted. Please see:

<https://www.lakecountyspca.org/special-events>

9th Annual Cindy Hite Memorial Golf Tournament – Friday, October 15th, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Kinderton Country Club. For more information contact Heather Hite at 434-390-9102 or Ren Hite at 434-738-7713.

Double Nickel Players Present Murder at Cheltenham Manor – Friday, October 22nd & Saturday, October 23rd, 6:00 p.m. social hour, 7:00 p.m. dinner and show; Sunday, October 24th, 2:00 p.m. social hour, 3:00 p.m. dinner and show. Please see:

www.facebook.com/ClarksvilleCommunityPlayers

Trick or Treat on the Avenue – Friday, October 29th, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Virginia Avenue, downtown Clarksville. Please see:

<http://business.clarksvilleva.com/events/details/trick-or-treat-on-the-ave-7937#/>

For events offered by Occoneechee State Park, please see:

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/park-events-list?srchloc=all&eventtype=all&BDate=09/23/2021&EDate=10/23/2021>

Recurring Events:

Clarksville Farm Fresh Marketplace – Saturday, October 9th and October 22nd, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., downtown Clarksville.

Tuesday Night Bingo Hosted by Clarksville Ruritans – October 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th, Clarksville Community Center, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Friday Night Music and Dancing Hosted by Clarksville Ruritans – October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th, Clarksville Ruritans Thrift Shop, 211 West 3rd Street, 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Fish Fry & BBQ – Sponsored by VFW Post 8163, Thursday, October 21st, (3rd Thursday of every month), 7488 Hwy. 15 North, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Dine in or take out.

News Alert!

Please send Emily Howie any news or items of interest for publication in the next newsletter.
Email: Emily.howie@halnorman.com. Thank you!



*Neighborhood photos by Hal Norman
From ~1970-present.*

