



Summer 2020 Issue

MALA

Merfield Acres Landowner's Association

Clarksville, Virginia

www.merfieldacres.org

Volume 7, Number 3

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Summer 2020 MALA Newsletter

Merfield Acres News

New Well for the Apple Orchard

Kevin Hensley and Lee Baldwin reported on the new well that was put in for the Merfield Apple Orchard. Both Kevin and Lee provided pictures of the work done to dig the well and of the lovely apples from the orchard. Here is Lee's report:

Greetings!

Despite the incredibly hot weather, we are moving along with caring for the apple orchard! Most recently, Kevin Hensley brought his well-drilling crew and equipment over and dug us a wonderful well. It's producing 40 gallons a minute! A picture is attached with his caption, "With 40 gallons per minute coming out of the well it's a great day! Hensleys Well Drilling is happy to help our neighborhood."



I've attached a couple of other pictures of that wonderful day.

Also attached are pictures of the ripe apples from the old trees. Several folks were able to pick, cook, and enjoy these beauties.



The orchard itself is looking okay, but the hot weather is stressing some of our trees, particularly the grafts from the old trees. We have had good help from the Orchard Care Team, but can use some more weeding, landscape fabric, and grass clippings under about 6 more trees. We also need to watch the fishing line and repair it when it comes down.

I have consulted several times with David Vernon, the orchardist, about the trees. We lost some foliage in early June when the grasshoppers were very busy, but I sprayed the trees with garlic-pepper spray and earlier with BT to deter the grasshoppers and caterpillars. I have been

2019-2020 Committees

Architectural Committee*

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Welcoming / Email

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Scott Diamond
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Security

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

watering once or twice a week (depending on the rain), to prevent drought damage.

David said that we need to continue our vigilance with weeding, mulching, and watering (reasonably) through July and August. The trees that have lost leaves and that endure the drought will grow more foliage in September and October, once the heat is off.

Please encourage everyone to come out and enjoy whenever they can!

Lee

Please note that additional photos can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Dock Found – Thank You from Wanda Harris

Wanda Harris contacted me Wednesday night to let me know that her dock had been found. She wanted to express her appreciation to all the Merifield neighbors who helped to find the dock and who contacted her after receiving the email concerning the missing dock. Wanda said that she was overwhelmed that so many neighbors wanted to help. Merifield residents are certainly the best!

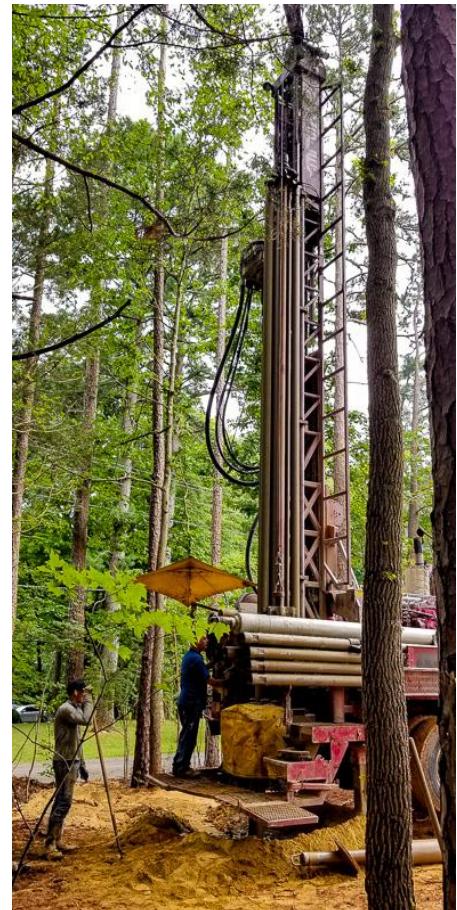
In Memorium -- Former Merifield Residents

Joe Noah died on April 16th, at 92 years of age. Joe was not only a long-time resident of Merifield and former president of MALA, but he was a highly valued citizen of Clarksville. He was a pilot in the U.S. military for over 20 years, serving in World War II, and both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. His love of flying for both work and pleasure was well known. Joe and his wife Betty founded the Preddy Memorial Foundation to honor his cousins George and Bill Preddy, World War II fighter pilots who lost their lives in combat over Europe. Joe was one of the three original trustees of the Lake Country Regional Airport; he was the first administrative assistant of the early Clarksville Lake Country Chamber of Commerce; and he helped to grow Lakefest into the area's largest festival. Above all, he was a kind and good man who lived his life as an example to all.

William "Bill" Townsend, age 81, died on May 27th, of Covid-19. Bill and his wife Fran moved to Merifield in 2002. Frances Townsend passed away in 2018.

David McPherson, David was the son of Jane and the late Dr. Harry McPherson and a frequent visitor when his parents owned a home at the end of Meriwether Drive. David especially loved jogging around the airfield. Please see the obituary from the *Richmond Times Dispatch*, provided to me by Ed Mazur:

"On March 31, 2020, David McPherson (63) passed away from a complication during a routine medical procedure. David was born March 20, 1957 in Durham, North Carolina to Jane and the late Dr. Harry T. McPherson. He attended high school at C.E. Jordan High School. David graduated from University of Richmond in 1979...he settled in Midlothian, Va., beginning his 30-year career at Pfizer.



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.virginiaskakeregion.com/>

David is survived by his wife, June McPherson; his three stepchildren; by his mother, Jane McPherson, three siblings, nieces and nephews, and one grandson.”

Please Watch Your Boat Speed

I was asked to remind everyone to please slow down when entering or exiting a cove. Both the noise and the strong wake that are produced by high speeds can be disruptive to your neighbors.

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.

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

Board Meeting – August 11, 2020

(Appropriate social distancing will be practiced.)

Annual Meeting/Picnic – September/October 2020

Board Meeting – December 8, 2020

MALA June 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

Merifield Acres Landowners' Association Board Meeting – June 9, 2019

- I. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Kevin Hensley at 7:00 in the Baldwin's hangar. It was announced that the next regular Board meeting will be in the Hensley's garage.
- II. Roll Call (by sign-in):** Roll Call (by sign-in): Board members present: Kevin Hensley, Annie Hensley, Rick Baldwin, Lee Baldwin, Kathy Compton, Mike Compton, Mike Gupton, Alan Weyman, Chris Crouse, Hal Norman, Phil Beck, Dave Hammer, Ed Mazur, Art Divens, and Emily Howie. Guests in attendance: Ken Catlett, Joseph Andrassy, Sambo Lewis.
- III. Minutes –** Minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and approved subject to the inclusion of Ed Mazur's proposed amendment (below in brackets) to the February minutes. Ed presented the following amendment: *(amended text: added text in red, deleted text in strikethrough)*

{Treasurer's Report—Annie Hensley, Treasurer, presented the report. We have \$104,324.99 in a CD at 2.35% and \$142,747.39 in checking at Carter's Bank. **Discussions were held among the members concerning:**

- a. The need to renew or replace the current CD when it expires.
- b. The feasibility of distinguishing between the amount of funds at Carter's Bank that have accumulated as part of the "Contract Paving Reserve" fund identified in the 2020 Budget, and funds that are available for MALA operating costs.
- c. The feasibility of timing investments in CD's to optimize investment returns earned on "Contract Paving Reserves," based on when they

**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_inf
ormation](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/occoneechee#general_information)

will be drawn down and disbursed. (Roads Committee member, Mike Gupton, projected that only limited funds would be needed for repairs in 2020 and that the amount would not be known for at least 6 months.)

- d. The feasibility of timing investments in CD's to optimize investment returns on monies set aside for operating expenditures based on the anticipated timing of when those expenditures will need to be made during the current and future years.
- e. The advantage of investing in U.S. Treasury Bills, which might have a higher rate of return than CDs. ~~We are going to reinvest the current CD in another investment. We want to check out the possible short term CD's available for the excess. There needs to be a discussion about when funds should be withdrawn from the bank and invested.~~
- f. Ed Mazur and Chris Crouse volunteered to work with the Treasurer to address these matters. Ed Mazur reported that we have \$202,744.58 as of December in the Benchmark investments. The income for the time that we had our funds in the account in 2019 was \$2945.03.

Ed Mazur reported that we have around \$202,744.58 as of December in the Benchmark investments. The income for the time that we had our funds in the account in 2019 was \$2945.03.}

The above amendment to the February minutes was seconded and approved unanimously.

(The amended version is now on the MALA website, with a link to the original minutes).

IV. Committee Reports/Open Issues (organized alphabetically by Committee after President's and Treasurer's reports)

First Order of Business and President's Report – Kevin reported that the next Board meeting on August 11 (7 PM) will be held at the Hensley garage, with doors open and lots of ventilation. Annie Hensley recognized DeWitt Vanarsdale, Bill Townsend, and Joe Noah, all of whom have passed since our last meeting. Our community mourns their passing and they will be sorely missed.

Treasurer's Report – Annie Hensley, Treasurer, presented the report. Annie reported that MALA currently has \$87,801.86 in the MALA checking account at Carter's Bank and Trust and \$104,951.52 in a one-year CD with Carter's Bank at 1.65%. We invested in eight \$10,000 CDs at Touchstone Bank in February at 1.75%.

Finance Committee – Ed Mazur, chair, reported:

- MALA's Long-term Investment Funds are invested through Benchmark Bank's Financial Solutions program, under the auspices of Chris

Bailey, a Benchmark VP, utilizing Raymond James Financial Services to facilitate the actual investment.

- Papers, signed by President Hensley and VP Crouse, authorizing the establishment, at Benchmark Bank, of an account with Raymond James and the transfer of funds currently invested through the Infinex Financial Group to the new Raymond James account will be delivered to Benchmark on June 10th.
- An email has been sent to Chris Bailey by President Hensley authorizing him to discuss MALA investments with Ed Mazur.
- Consultations will be initiated with Chris Bailey within the next several days to obtain his suggestions for the investment of funds now in the above mentioned money-market, wherein those suggestions will be reviewed through discussions involving Ed Mazur, Sambo Lewis, Kathy Compton, Kevin Hensley, and Chris Crouse. Ed suggested that the Board indicate its willingness to have the recommendation of that group form the basis of instructions to Benchmark so that little delay would be experienced in moving the funds to a higher yield—but secure—investment vehicle. The Board concurred with that suggestion.
- It was further suggested that the information gathered during that process be shared by the Finance Committee group with the MALA Treasurer as a means of expanding considerations concerning the future investment of Contract Paving Reserve funds and Operating Funds currently held by Carter's Bank and Touchstone Bank.

Oak Park Update – Kevin Hensley: At Oak Park Barbara Tierney has planted perennials around the barn and needs some help with smoothing out the beds and surfaces.

Appearance and Beautification – Butch Cheatham: No report.

Architectural Committee – Allen Weyman, chair:

Seven requests for Architectural Committee review and approval were received since the last report. Four were approved, two were disapproved, and one was completed with a finding of "no objection":

- Garage extension on Stacey that was pending per the last report was initially disapproved due to insufficient documentation, but was subsequently approved after the necessary documentation was provided.
- Shed on Lakepoint was approved.
- Detached garage on Occonechee was disapproved.
- New house on Highpoint was completed with "no objection".
- Garage extension on Stacy was approved.
- Detached garage on Beechwood was approved.

No other requests for approval are under review or pending. No issues or complaints are currently under investigation by the committee.

Reminder: Approval is required from the Architectural Committee for the cutting of trees that are six or more inches in diameter at six feet above ground level.

Aviation Committee – Rick Baldwin, chair: We have installed a new windsock on a 23 foot pole which was provided by Kevin Hensley. We are also reconditioning the runway boundary cones.

Directory – Please continue to contact Lee Baldwin at lbaldwin01@aol.com with any changes that need to be made to the directory. Updates are made throughout the year and published once a year before the Annual Meeting. There are no new developments or news.

Orchard Update – Lee Baldwin: Our young trees appear to be healthy, and with the help of several volunteers, we have been weeding and laying down landscape fabric and grass clippings for mulch. The following neighbors have been wonderful in helping with the trees: Gale and Moe Tetreault, Gary Trimmer, Al Stiles, Ali and Kevin Frey, Ken Gahagan, Kate Sherrill, Jeanne Jepsen, and Ed Mazur. We still have about 6 trees that need tending. We are also spraying with garlic/pepper spray and BT to naturally deter the insects. We will be enriching the soil soon. Regular watering is taking place during the dry weeks. We really look forward to having a well to use for this part of the orchard care! (Thanks to Hensley Well Drilling!)

Common Areas and Facilities Committee – Allen Weyman, chair: Nothing to report.

Deer Control Committee – Scott Diamond, Chair: Kevin reporting: Fawns are starting to come out now. Keep your eyes open!

Roads and Maintenance Committee – Mike Gupton, Chair: We are going to sign a contract soon to replace the culvert at the intersection of Lakepoint and Merifield Drives and install an 18" culvert and repave. At the main entrance at the corner, we are going to widen and support the edge to get the water off of the road. The pothole on Merifield Drive near the tennis courts will be dug up and the surface redone. Hiddenwood Court will be resurfaced. West Point Drive will also be done. We will have to dig up roots on Merifield Drive and Center Court and repair the pothole on Cedar Lane. The total cost will be around \$27,000. More major road repairs may be needed next year. We will have to consider how many layers we can build up without making the shoulder dropoff too steep.

Security Committee – David Hammer, Chair: No report.

Newsletter, Email and Newcomer Welcoming – Emily Howie: We continue to work on the newsletter. We want to keep the information about family events coming, so please share. We can think about community events for the future, but we have to wait and see. Art Divens complemented the newsletter and the effort that Emily is putting into it.

Webpage – Hal Norman – The Board expressed its appreciation for the attention to detail that Hal has shown in keeping the records and preserving our community's history. Hal is creating separate pages for the airport and

other specialty areas in the community. Please send any interesting photos to: mala@halnorman.com.

V. New Business:

Ed Mazur asked about whether the Japanese maple at the entrance would be replaced. Butch Cheatham is taking care of it.

Hal Norman raised a concern about golf carts on Merifield roads, and particularly those driven by children.

Kevin Hensley mentioned that the tennis court resurfacing is in progress.

VI. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m. Kevin reminded the Board that the next meeting will be held August 11, 2020, at 7:00 PM at the Hensley's garage.

Mecklenburg County – State of Virginia News

Clarksville – The town will receive \$102, 776 in CARES Act relief funds to offset expenses incurred by the town due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The money could be used to cover the cost of the plexiglass shields installed in Town Hall at the customer service counter, or for personal protective equipment (PPE) purchases for town employees.

In July, the Clarksville Town Council approved a new 25-year lease with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the property that serves as the Clarksville Marina. With the new lease the town will be in a better position to proceed with plans to improve the parking facilities and the marina office building and restroom facilities. The current plan calls for the construction of the new facilities in 2022.

http://www.sovanow.com/index.php?/news/article/clarksville_eyes_use_for_cares_funds/

During the July meeting of the Mecklenburg Board of Supervisors, the supervisors granted a special exception permit to Verizon Wireless to install a 199-foot communications tower on private property at the intersection of Sandy Fork and Henrico Roads near Clarksville.

http://www.sovanow.com/index.php?/news/article/mecklenburg_county_backs_upgrade_for_bracey-area_broadband/

Here is a website with a good short summary of all the new laws passed by the Virginia General Assembly that went into effect on July 1st:

<https://www.pendercoward.com/resources/blog-opinions-and-observations/new-laws-in-virginia-effective-july-1-2020-and-noteworthy-actions-by-the-virginia-legislature/>

Local History

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Clarksville at the Library of Congress

On August 1st, historical Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Clarksville became available online for the first time through the Library of Congress's website. If you are not familiar with the Sanborn maps collection, it consists of a uniform series of large-scale maps, dating from 1867 to the present which depicts the commercial, industrial, and residential sections of some twelve thousand cities and towns in the United States, Canada, and

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Mexico. The maps were designed to assist fire insurance agents in determining the degree of fire hazard associated with a particular property. They show the size, shape, and construction of dwellings, commercial buildings, and factories as well as fire walls, locations of windows and doors, sprinkler systems, and types of roofs. The maps also indicate widths and names of streets, property boundaries, building use, and house and block numbers.

The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map collection is housed in the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress and includes some fifty thousand editions of fire insurance maps comprising an estimated seven hundred thousand individual sheets. The Library's holdings represent the largest existing collection of maps produced by the Sanborn Map Company. The newly available Sanborn maps of Clarksville are dated November 1902, November 1907, July 1913, and May 1921.

Before viewing the maps, I would suggest that you read the information on how to view and interpret Sanborn maps on the following webpage:

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection/>

The Clarksville Sanborn maps can be found on the following webpage:

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/?q=clarksville+virginia>

Interesting Websites to Explore:

Mental Floss – A Website for Curious Individuals:

This website began in a Duke University dorm room in 2001 and now reaches more than 1 billion readers:

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/>

Atlas Obscura – A travel website that takes readers to wondrous places and contains fascinating facts and stories:

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/>

Virtual 3D Tour of Ancient Rome, Circa 320 C.E.:

<http://www.openculture.com/2015/03/rome-reborn-take-a-virtual-tour-through-ancient-rome-320-c-e.html>

Bronx Zoo Virtual Historical Walking Tour:

<https://www.wcsarchivesblog.org/bronx-zoo-virtual-historical-walking-tour/>

Minerva's Kaleidoscope – Just for Kids and Families

Developed by the Library of Congress to introduce kids and families to the Library's collections:

<https://blogs.loc.gov/loc/2020/07/minervas-kaleidoscope-just-for-kids-and-families/>

Recalls and Consumer Alerts:

Recall of White, Red, Yellow, and Sweet Onions and Certain Prepared Foods Possibly Containing Onions Due to Salmonella Illnesses:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/food/2020/08/05/walmart-kroger-salads-recall-onions-salmonella-outbreak/3306174001/>

Recall of MW-Company MOMO Quick Release Steering Wheel Adapters:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2019/MW-Company-Recalls-MOMO-Quick-Release-Steering-Wheel-Adapters-Due-to-Crash-Hazard-Risk-of-Serious-Injury-and-Death>

STIHL- PolyCut-Mowing Heads Recalled:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2019/STIHL-PolyCut-Mowing-Heads-Recalled-Due-to-Injury-Hazard#>

WD-40 Company Recalls X-14 Mildew Remover Over Possible Skin Irritation:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2020/WD-40-Company-Recalls-X-14-Mildew-Stain-Remover-Due-to-Risk-of-Skin-Irritation>

Remember that you can find the entire list of Consumer Product Safety Commission recalled products at:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls>

Upcoming Clarksville and Area Events:

Putts for Paws – 17th Annual Linda Holt Memorial Captain’s Choice Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, August 14th. This event benefits the Lake Country SPCA in Clarksville. The Registration Form and the Sponsorship Tax Form has been posted on the Merifield Acres website. Please see:

<https://merifieldacres.org/the-place/civic-organizations/lake-country-sPCA/>

As of the publication of this edition of the newsletter the website for the Clarksville Lake Country Chamber of Commerce has listed the following events as taking place:

Clarksville Wine Festival – Saturday, August 29th (Rescheduled from April)

Lakefest – Friday, September 18th and Saturday, September 19th (Rescheduled from July)

Harvest Days and The Big Lake Flea Market – Saturday, October 3rd.

The Clarksville Farm Fresh Marketplace -- Held on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month from 9 am -12:30 pm. The next Fresh Marketplace will take place on Saturday, August 22nd, corner of 4th Street and Virginia Avenue, downtown Clarksville.

Please check the Lake Country Chamber of Commerce website for up to date information on these events:

<https://clarksvilleva.com/chamber-of-commerce-information/>

Other Events of Interest:

Sunken Treasures of Egypt:

Dive into one of the most astonishing underwater discoveries of all time. The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond presents *Treasures of Ancient Egypt: Sunken Cities*. The exhibition is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see treasures recovered from two powerful ancient Egyptian cities that sank into the Mediterranean more than a thousand years ago. Destroyed by natural catastrophes in the 8th century AD, Thonis-Heracleion and Canopus were once mighty centers of trade, where Egyptian and Greek cultures merged in art, worship, and everyday life.

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The exhibit runs from July 4, 2020 through January 18, 2021. To read more about the exhibit and purchase tickets, please see:

<https://www.vmfa.museum/exhibitions/exhibitions/treasures-ancient-egypt/>

News Alert!

Please send Emily Howie any news or items of interest for publication in the next newsletter to: Emily.howie@halnorman.com or call (434-374-1590). Thank You!

