



MALA

Merifield Acres Landowner's Association

Clarksville, Virginia

www.merifieldacres.org

Winter 2021 Newsletter

Volume 8, Number 1

Officers:

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lbaldwin01@aol.com
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Treasurer

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Architectural Committee*

Alan Weyman, Chair
aweyman@hotmail.com
(434) 738-7233

Newsletter

Emily Howie
emily.howie@halnorman.com
374-1590

Website

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Hal.Norman@halnorman.com
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Winter 2021 MALA Newsletter

Merifield Acres News

Merifield Roads Cleanup – February 27th, 2021

The second Merifield road cleanup, and the last one of the year, will be held on **Saturday, February 27th, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Kevin Hensley is organizing the cleanup to trim tree limbs and remove brush. Volunteers will meet at either the tennis courts or at the Hensley's boat garage. Annie Hensley will once again provide hot dogs with all the fixings at noon at the Hensley garage. Please bring gloves, chainsaws, and pole saws. There will be two dump trailers for this cleanup thanks to the Adlers. Kevin promises that this will be a fun event!



The January 9th cleanup was a tremendous success. Approximately 40 volunteers worked hard and greatly improved the front entrance roadway into Merifield Acres. Additional photos can be found on the Merifield Acres website:

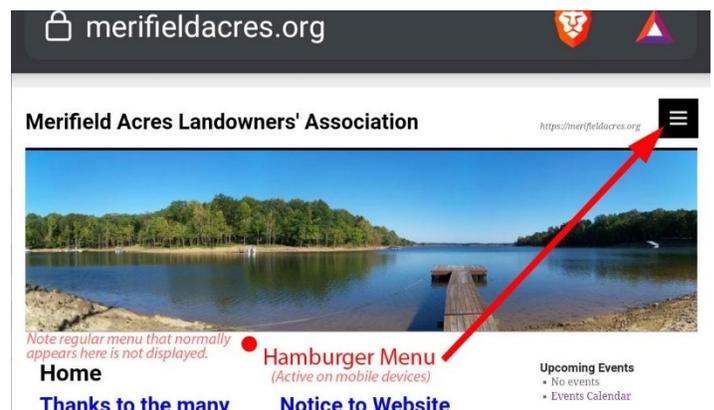
<https://merifieldacres.org/the-place/photo-galleries/cleanup-effort-jan-9-2021/>

Thank you to all the volunteers who contributed to the January cleanup!

Please call Kevin at 434-374-2803 if you would like to volunteer or help with the cleanup on February 27th, or if you have any questions.

Improvements to the Merifield Acres Website

The MALA website is in the process of being upgraded to allow easier access and operation from mobile devices. When being accessed from phones and smaller tablets, the regular menu will be replaced by the "Hamburger" menu in the upper right-hand corner of the page. This menu, unlike the standard one, will stay in place until an item is selected, and can be expanded to show all levels of submenus. This will greatly



Welcome to the Hamburger Menu!

2018-2019 Committees

Architectural Committee*

Alan Weyman, Chair

aweyman@hotmail.com

(434) 738-7233

Aviation

Rick Baldwin, Chair

Rbaldwin01@aol.com

(919) 846-8001

Beautification

Chip Overton

374-5867

Common Grounds Chair

Alan Weyman

aweyman@hotmail.com

(434) 738-7233

Roads Chair

Mike Gupton

mikeg@kerrlake.com

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"

facilitate the selection of menu items and documents from mobile devices but will still allow normal menu operation from laptops and desktops. Please visit the website to see more details and instructions on how to use the new mobile menu. The new menus originate from a different source than the regular menus, so these will have to be synchronized before they are fully operational. Also, some of the menus have become long and unwieldy over time, so these menus are being reorganized to make them shorter (and to require fewer clicks to access many items).

Thank You!

A big thank you to the volunteers who assisted with the Merifield Christmas decorations at the front entrance, particularly those who handled the electrical work.

Also, thank you to Kim Stanley for sharing the spectacular picture of the barn in Oak Park.

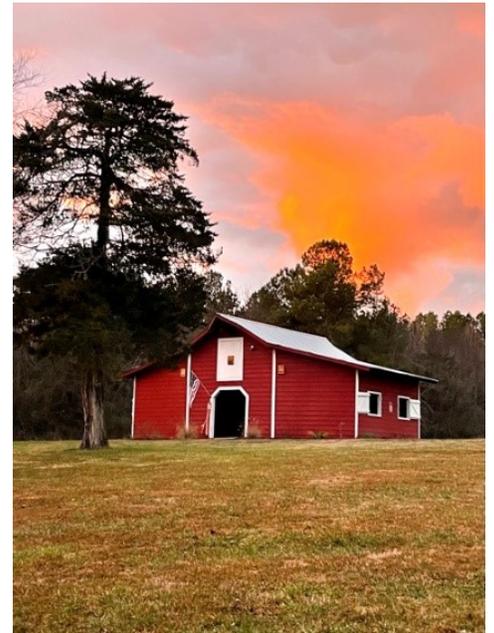


Photo by Kim Stanley

MALA December 2020 Meeting Minutes

Merifield Acres Landowners' Association Board Meeting December 8, 2020

I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Kevin Hensley at 7:00 in the Hensley's garage.

Roll Call (by sign-in): Board members present: Kevin Hensley, Annie Hensley, Rick Baldwin, Lee Baldwin, Mike Gupton, Hal Norman, Emily Howie, Dave Hammer, Rusty Bishop, Tim Ott. Also in attendance: Sambo Lewis, Ken Catlett.

Minutes—Minutes from the August meeting were reviewed, moved to be accepted and approved unanimously.

II. Treasurer's Report—Annie Hensley, Treasurer, presented her report and the year to date Profit and Loss statement. Lee Baldwin reported that we will be setting up our Quickbooks account to include specifics about our assets and include budget items and categories to account for expenditures that are made utilizing the funds from those assets.

[We will report details of our assets, and our checking account, during the meeting, but they will be redacted in the printed report of the minutes. MALA will provide specific details of our financials upon written request by members only. And we will create log-ins for the website. Please see New Business for decisions regarding reporting financial details.]

III. Committee Reports/Open Issues (organized alphabetically by Committee after President's and Treasurer's reports)—We have a community clean-up on January 9, 2021 at 10:00. There will be hot dogs and buns at the barn at Oak Park for lunch.

Appearance and Beautification—Chip Overton, chair: Rusty Bishop reported that everything is beautiful.

Architectural Committee—Alan Weyman, chair: Three requests for Architectural Committee review and approval were received since the last report. Two were approved and one was disapproved.

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/>

- Detached shed on Lakepoint was approved
- Detached shed on Merifield was disapproved
- Detached shed extension on Stacy was approved

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

Directory—Lee Baldwin: Please contact Lee Baldwin at lbaldwin01@aol.com with any changes that you need to be made to the directory. We need to continue to seek a system for updating our directory and database when properties are bought and sold.

Aviation Committee—Rick Baldwin, chair: Thanks to MALA, we had Sandy Forks Farm Supply lime, fertilize, and reseed the runway in late October. The grass is coming up. The runway is green and lovely.

Apple Orchard Update—Lee Baldwin: We have a beehive now to help with pollination. There are concerns about some of the trees; it appears that someone may have used Roundup in the orchard. Please DO NOT use any herbicide or insecticide on the apple trees. If you are concerned about pests or weeds, please contact Lee Baldwin. We are planning to plant around 10 new trees later in the winter. They will be 4-6 years old and will be purchased with a warranty.

Common Areas and Facilities Committee—Alan Weyman: There were no reservations made for Oak Park since the last report and non are pending.

Deer Control Committee—Ken Catlett reported that six deer have been harvested in the neighborhood.

Roads and Maintenance Committee—Mike Gupton, chair. We are still waiting to get the last work done on the roads. We have not yet paid for the work, and will once it's completed. We now have a No Soliciting sign near the entrance to the community, with special thanks to John Blanchard and Joy Gupton, and we have reflectors to mark the edge of the road to replace the ones that have been damaged. We need to put gravel in the culvert cut on Merifield Drive.

Security Committee—David Hammer: No issues to report.

Newsletter, Email and Newcomer Welcoming—Emily – We have updated emails from the ballots. We also want to note that Clarksville and Mecklenburg Library will be participating in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. We discussed whether we should publish a recommended list of contractors in the newsletter, but agreed that we will let *Nextdoor Neighbor* handle it.

Webpage—Hal Norman: We have pretty good protection now. We will be trying to put a new theme in the webpage so it will render on cellphones and tablets properly. As always, please send any interesting information or photos to: mala@hainorman.com. We will also be getting the log-ins set up.

IV. New Business

Maintenance Contract: Mike Gupton: Kevin signed the Maintenance Contract for Mike Hite.

Decision Regarding Minutes: The recent phishing attacks directed towards Board members was brought up. Since the information to launch these attacks was likely gleaned from the contact information on MALA's web site, the worry was that MALA's Treasurer's reports were also online and might be used by hackers to target specific banking accounts that MALA maintains. A motion was raised, seconded, and approved to redact all specific financial information from the online minutes, with a proviso to mail the unredacted minutes to the address of record for any member requesting a copy; furthermore, it was noted that MALA members may attend Board meetings where the financial information is presented to the board.

**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.lakecountryspca.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

V. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. The next meeting will be held February 9, 2021, at the Hensley's garage.

=====End of Minutes Section=====

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.

Board Meeting – February 9, 2021

(Appropriate social distancing will be practiced.)

Board Meeting – April 13, 2021

Board Meeting – June 8, 2021

Board Meeting – August 10, 2021

September/October Annual Meeting – Date to Be Determined

Board Meeting – December 14, 2021

Clarksville/Mecklenburg County News

Microsoft Data Center Expansion -- It was reported in mid-January 2021, that Microsoft Corporation is expanding its existing enterprise data center in Mecklenburg County. This expansion will create more than 100 new jobs. This project will be the sixth expansion at the facility since 2010 and will allow the company to further enhance its ability to serve customers in the U.S. and across the globe.

<https://businessfacilities.com/2019/01/microsoft-expanding-mecklenburg-county-va-sixth-time/>

Warehouse Development Approved by Clarksville Town Council – At the town council meeting on January 12th, Clarksville Town Council Members approved a project to redevelop the Planters Warehouse site on Virginia Avenue. The project will include 40 one-bedroom apartments and commercial space facing Virginia Avenue. The old Planters Warehouse, which was slated for redevelopment and preservation, was destroyed by winds from Tropical Storm Michael in October of 2018.

http://www.sovanow.com/index.php?/news/article/clarksville_gives_go-ahead_to_warehouse_development/

Blue Catfish Mascot Art Contest– The Clarksville Lake Country Chamber of Commerce is looking for a Blue Cat mascot and is asking artists to submit their designs by February 26th. Buggs Island Lake still holds the world record for the largest Blue Cat caught. The Blue Cat weighed 143 pounds and was caught in 2011. For more details on the contest, please contact the Clarksville Lake Country Chamber of Commerce, 105 2nd Street, Clarksville. (434) 374-2436 or email clarkvillelakecountry@outlook.com

Virginia State News

State of Virginia Covid-19 Vaccination Webpage:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-vaccine/>

Virginia Residents Traveling to North Carolina for Covid-19 Vaccine:

<https://www.pilotonline.com/government/local/vp-nw-coronavirus-nc-0207-20210206-or4bymejlhb5vo7nswduogy6rm-story.html>

Retired Business Leader from South Boston Appointed to Virginia Redistricting Panel:

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

Virginia State History

Natural Bridge Virginia – A Symbol of the Nation in American Art

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) in Richmond has a new exhibit which opened on February 6th and runs until August 1st, 2021, focusing on the Natural Bridge of Virginia. This geological wonder is a 215-foot-tall formation located in Rockbridge County in the Shenandoah Valley. The exhibit focuses on how the Natural Bridge became a popular symbol of the nation in eighteenth and nineteenth century American art, second only to Niagara Falls.

The first depiction of the Natural Bridge was a drawing in the French travelogue of the Marquis de Chastellux dated 1787, which is on display in the exhibition. An interesting fact is that the first known painted appearance of the Natural Bridge is in an 1801 portrait of Thomas Jefferson by the artist Caleb Boyle. Jefferson purchased the land where Natural Bridge stands from the British Crown in 1774 and owned it for the remainder of his life. His family sold the property seven years after his death.

The exhibit includes paintings of the Natural Bridge by such artists as Frederic Edwin Church and Thomas Cole. Also on display are prints, maps, etchings, engravings, and even painted furniture – all depicting the grandeur of this natural wonder. In 2016, Virginia Governor designated the Natural Bridge as a state park. The exhibit at the VMFA is free to the public.

The Magazine Antiques has a wonderful article online about the exhibit. Please see:

<https://www.themagazineantiques.com/article/new-world-wonder-how-a-geological-oddity-became-an-enduring-symbol-of-the-nation-in-american-art/>

Interesting Websites and Online Articles to Explore

Technology:

Butch Cheatham contributed this article about a bug in Microsoft Windows 10 which deletes users' Gmail entries:

<https://betanews.com/2020/06/24/windows-10-mail-gmail/>



Photograph from the Carol M. Highsmith Archive, Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division

Jigsaw Puzzles:

An interesting piece from JSTOR on the history of jigsaw puzzles and the surge in sales during the Covid-19 pandemic:

<https://daily.jstor.org/whats-behind-the-pandemic-puzzle-craze/>

Recalls and Consumer Alerts:

DeWalt Cordless Kerosene Heaters Recalled Due to Fire and Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Hazards:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Enerco-Group-Recalls-DeWALT-Cordless-Kerosene-Heaters-Due-to-Fire-and-Carbon-Monoxide-Poisoning-Hazards>

Camp Chef Recalls Portable Gas Stoves Due to Fire Hazards:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Camp-Chef-Recalls-Portable-Gas-Stoves-Due-to-Fire-Hazard>

Rapala USA Recalls Rechargeable Fillet Knives Due to Fire Hazard:

<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2021/Rapala-USA-Recalls-Rechargeable-Fillet-Knives-Due-to-Fire-Hazard>

Upcoming Clarksville and Area Events:

VFW Fish Fry & BBQ – 3rd Thursday of every month, **February 18th, and March 18th, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**, VFW Post 8163, 7488 Hwy 15 North. \$8 for all you can eat or carry out.

Lake Country Wine Festival – **Saturday, April 10th, Noon to 5:00 p.m.**, 617 Virginia Avenue.

More information on ticket sales, etc. can be found at:

<http://business.clarksvilleva.com/events/details/clarksville-lake-country-wine-festival-9155>

Happy Valentine's Day

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!

