



# WPOA NEWS

Inside Story

## *Water-- The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*

*Article By: Mary Wolf*

Water- The Good, the Bad and the Ugly	Cover Page
Drip Drip Drip Tuckahoe Kitchen Update	2
SC Yard Sale/Antique Fair "Lust For Wine & Murder" Community Calendar	3
Wintergreen Landscaping Pool Season has arrived	4
Pool Season Continued	5
Seasons Condo Update Wintergreen Fire and Rescue	6
WFD Commits to National Physical Agility Standard A Stihl Christmas in April TWNF Host Meeting of Scientists	7
TWNF Continued	8
WPA Summer 2010-Vienna	9
VA. Bear Smart Community	10
VA. Bear Smart Community Continued WPOA BOD Application	11

As we all know, water is a very precious resource. WPI and WPOA are working closely with the county and the Nelson County Service Authority (NCSA) to monitor water usage, water loss and to plan for the future. We know that we need to address the need for more water moving forward and we are working to put plans in place to make that happen. The biggest issue right now is the cost and how we pay for additional water storage and capacity.

In the meantime, a number of things are happening. The NCSA is putting a new treatment plant on line this year and they are upgrading the equipment in 21 pressure relief vaults. The goal is to have these equipped with a monitoring capability that would allow them to pinpoint water loss in one of these 21 'zones'. If a pipe breaks today, it is not always an easy process to determine the source of the leak. This monitoring capability would allow the Service Authority to be able to react much more quickly to a problem, thus

reducing the amount of water loss under these circumstances. Currently, this capability is not funded.

Another source of significant water loss is what is called 'inside the meter'. This means that once the water moves past the individual home water meter and into the home, water loss is occurring somewhere. This can be VERY costly to the consumer. Given the nature of our community, where many homeowners are absent for long periods of time, this water loss can go on for a month or more without being detected. It might be a simple thing like a leaky faucet or a toilet that runs continuously, or it might be a serious event such as a broken water heater or a burst pipe, etc. As someone who has been through having my entire home ruined due to a burst pipe, I can assure you it is a costly and agonizing experience.

In the other article on water in this issue, I discussed a number of options to prevent this from happening to your home.

The third option was to install a water flow leak detector and shutoff valve system. There are a variety of these systems in the market. Some of them are individual units installed at your water heater, toilet, washing machine, refrigerator, dishwasher, etc. Some are more sophisticated and are designed to monitor the water flow and shut off the valve given unusual water usage situations.

Stay tuned for more information on these systems. We will work to get details and pricing for the best options. In addition, WPI's maintenance group, headed by Mitch Barker has the resources to install these systems for you at a reasonable cost. They are also working to see if we can source the best product at a discount and offer it to homeowners' at a great price (434-325-8190).

If you are an absentee homeowner and choose not to install a whole house shutoff or one of these monitoring devices, PLEASE have a service check your home weekly during extreme periods of cold.

Special points of interest:

- WPOA Address Update
- Board Candidate Application
- Community Calendar

## *DRIP, DRIP, DRIP,...*

*Article By: Mary Wolf*

Did you know that a leaky faucet that drips one drop every 2 seconds can waste 1000 gallons of water per year?

I recently attended a water conservation workshop in Rochester and was amazed by some of the things I learned. We all have the tendency to think water is an unlimited resource. Did you know that less than 2.5% of the earth's water is fresh and of that 2/3 is frozen. This means that less than 1% of the earth's water is accessible for drinking and growing crops. More than 1 billion people in the world do not have access to clean water. In some areas of the world, women spend as much as five hours every day carrying water back to their family. As Americans, we use as much as 100 times more water than some parts of the world. The prediction is that in 16 years, 1.8 billion people will live in regions with severe water scarcity.

Some pretty frightening statistics, but what does this mean for us? It means that we need to start thinking about how we use water and find ways (even if they are just little) to conserve water.

Many of you are probably aware that we have had some water issues on the mountain in the past few months. WPOA and WPI have begun working closely with folks in the county and we are addressing the problems in a very cooperative manner. It will not be solved overnight, but we are making progress.

What can you do? Fix those leaky faucets and toilets. One of the biggest problems we face with the part time nature of many of the homes within our community occurs 'inside the meter'; meaning it is the homeowners responsibility, not the Service Authority. You can do several things:

- Turn off your water at the main coming into your house whenever your home/condo will be vacant. If you do not have a whole-house shut-off valve, consider installing one. One large water bill will more than cover the installation cost.

- Hire one of the local home maintenance companies to check your home monthly. You can find some of these companies by going to [wtgpoa.org](http://wtgpoa.org) and clicking on the link for 'Important Phone Numbers'.

- Install a 'Water Flow Leak Detector/Shut-off Valve. This link lists a number of companies carrying these products: <http://www.toolbase.org/TechInventory/TechManufacturers.aspx?ContentDetailID=879>

So, let's all start doing just one or two small things to use less water!

---

## *Tuckahoe Kitchen Update*

*Article By: Mary Wolf*

We are on the home stretch! This kitchen makeover has been a labor of love for many of us. We have been raising money in various ways. A number of residents lead by Alice Faintich and Bonnie Jefferson put together a wonderful talent show last spring, which gave us almost \$2500. The Quilting Club donated over \$1200 to us last fall after raffling off their beautiful quilt. The Valley Association gave us another \$1000 check last fall and we had a sale in November with wine, jewelry, artwork, book signings and orchids, which netted \$1000.

We also have several upcoming fund raisers.

**STONE CREEK YARD SALE AND ANTIQUE FAIR**  
**SATURDAY -- JUNE 12, 2010 -- 8:00 - 3:00**

GREAT WAY TO SPRING CLEAN YOUR HOUSE, ATTIC, BASEMENT AND YARD!  
THIS EVENT IS CERTAIN TO BE LOADS OF FUN, SO MARK THE DATE!

**LUST FOR WINE AND MURDER -- MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER**  
**THURSDAY -- AUGUST 19, 2010 and FRIDAY -- AUGUST 20, 2010**  
**TIME AND DATE -- TBD**

The proceeds from one evening will go to Nelson County Community Fund.

We still owe more money for the kitchen, so if you have an idea and are willing to organize it, PLEASE DO!!

The new kitchen will be installed the first or second week of June. We were able to get some AMAZING discounts from the Home Depot in Waynesboro. They are great to work with, so if you are thinking about re-doing your kitchen, please consider giving them your business. They give terrific discounts for a large job.

## **STONEY CREEK YARD SALE AND ANTIQUE FAIR**

*Article By: Mary Wolf*

MARK THE DATE--Stoney Creek YARD SALE and ANTIQUE FAIR

**SATURDAY -- JUNE 12, 2010 -- 8:00 - 3:00**

(To benefit the Tuckahoe Club House Kitchen Project)  
Food, games and more at the Tuckahoe Club House and grounds

NEEDED:

**Help with food and games or other creative ideas.** Please call the general chairman -- Louis Calderone (361-2226)

**Antique Dealers to rent booth spaces. Also, Individuals or Groups to rent space to sell their own items.** (Rent fees go to Tuckahoe Club House Kitchen project). Please call Vicki Keenan (361-2464) or Nancy McIntyre (361-1214)

**Tangible Donations:** Furniture, Antiques, golf equipment, household items (no clothing) for the **WPOA yard sale** (all proceeds will go toward the Tuckahoe Club House Kitchen project). Call Bonnie Jefferson (361-1779)

GREAT WAY TO SPRING CLEAN YOUR HOUSE, ATTIC, BASEMENT AND YARD!

**LET'S ALL PITCH IN, PITCH OUT AND GET THIS KITCHEN FINISHED**

**SO OUR CLUB HOUSE WILL BE MORE USER FRIENDLY!!!!!!!!!!!!**

.....  

## **"LUST FOR WINE AND MURDER"**

*Article By: Mary Wolf*

Odette Henderson is back in creative mode. She has put together another Murder Mystery involving most of the same actors from two years ago. The last play was sold out in almost two days and we ended up having a second evening, which also sold out quickly.

To give you an idea on what it's all about and to whet your appetite, here's how she has set the mood of the play:

"The enormous wine cellar of the Underwood Mansion is brightly lit and richly decorated and it is the scene of a congenial gathering of family and friends. Meeting and greeting at the door are Ralph Rottingrape and his wife, Tiny Bubbles. As the guests lift their glasses to toast their hosts and the new vintage of Pinot Noir, a small tremor shakes the mansion. The guests are unfazed -- either they did not feel the earthquake or they just did not want to be bothered. Until... the old wooden floor buckled, revealing the well preserved body of former vineyard owner, Barry Underwood. Now much shaken, the guests cast their eyes about, watching each others' expressions, and wondering who was responsible for this vintage murder mystery."

Proceeds from one evening go to the Nelson County Community Fund and from the second evening go to the Tuckahoe Club House Fund.

So, save the date: **August 19th or August 20th**. Time and location -- TBD.

.....  

## **Community Calendar**

*Article By: Mary Wolf*

WOW! Russell's staff is amazing. They have come up with an incredible calendar solution for us. We will now be able to allow our larger organizations within the community to manage their own calendar, allowing all of the events to be viewed in a central location. This will be a great help when planning events.

To find the calendar, go to [wtgpoa.org](http://wtgpoa.org) and click on the green link which says WPOA Calendar. Currently the schedule for the usage of Tuckahoe clubhouse is listed. Eventually, each organizations' calendar events will display in different colors.

John Harrington will work with the various organizations to get them oriented and using the new calendar tool. Presently we are hoping to have schedules posted for WPOA, WPI, Mountain Homesteaders, Valley Association, Fire and Rescue, BOGGS, Performing Arts, Nature Foundation, and Tuckahoe Club House. If you think we are missing a large organization, please contact John Harrington, Mary Wolf or Theresa Harris (325-8530). Many thanks to Russell and his team!

***Wintergreen Homeowners  
Let WPOA take care of all your landscaping***



WPOA is offering a mowing service to private homeowners. In the past years, we have only serviced Condominiums and public areas with grass cutting. We have scaled back on Condo services therefore being able to provide more services to the private homeowners.

WPOA will provide interested owners with free estimates and visual evaluations of your lawn and gardens. We are trained and equipped to perform any landscape needs you might have from planting installation, to pruning and renovation of lawns. To get ready for the growing season, give us a call or e-mail us so we can help you.

**Property Owner Street Address Signs**

Owners have asked where they can get a sign with the Wintergreen Logo and their street address. Please contact Lester Hibbs, WPOA Maintenance for pricing/options at 434-325-8539 between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

Office Hours Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Gary Cornwell 434-325-8534

E-Mail:

Toby Fitzgerald 434-325-8529

pubcoland@aol.com

**If interested, please fill out this section with your information and mail back to us at:**

**88 Wintergreen Drive, Wintergreen Resort, Va. 22967**

I am interested in the following services: (Please check)

Mowing: \_\_\_ Mulching: \_\_\_ Aerator Seeder: \_\_\_

Clean-up: \_\_\_ Planting: Shrubs, trees, flowers: \_\_\_

Driveway repair: \_\_\_ Brush Removal & Chipping: \_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_



My daytime telephone number is: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Wintergreen Lot Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***Pool Season has finally arrived***



We would like to remind you that the Chestnut Springs and the Rodes Farm pool's will be opening on Memorial Weekend Saturday, 29 May, 2010 at 10:00 am and are available to all property owners and their guests with the proper identification.

## *Pool Season has finally arrived Continued*

All owners can obtain their permanent pool passes through our office Monday through Friday by contacting Rhonda Proffitt at 434-325-8526 from 9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. If you have already obtained your WPOA customized passes, these passes are good for as long as you are a property owner at Wintergreen and there is no need to renew them. If your passes become lost, there will be a \$5.00 charge for a replacement.



We have added several BBQ grills and picnic tables around the Pavilion at Chestnut Springs and Rodes Farm. We have also purchased a gas grill for both facilities. There is a \$5.00 fee for the propane tanks. The lifeguards will have the propane tanks and utensils upon request.



If you are looking for all day entertainment Rodes Farm is the facility for your family. We not only have a covered pavilion, we also have a kiddie pool, adult swimming pool, two horseshoe pits, two sand volleyball courts, and a tennis court. There is also a fishing pond with a deck (catch and release) for your enjoyment.

The Chestnut Springs/Rodes Farm pavilion's can be reserved for private functions. To reserve either pavilion, you can contact Ceason Morris at 434-325-8524 Monday through Friday from 9:00 am. to 5:00 pm.

### **Location of both pools:**

The Chestnut Springs Pool and Pavilion/Playground: **94 Timber Camp Drive (MT)**

Rodes Farm Pool, Pavilion and Tennis Court: **1070 Rodes Farm Drive (VALLEY)**

### **Opened from:**

Memorial Day through Labor Day

### **Pool Hours:**

Opened from 10 am to 6pm daily

Closed Thursday from 6 pm to Friday 10 am for maintenance



### **Attention**

Lake Monocan is owned by Wintergreen Partner's Inc. For information please contact the Partners office at 434-325-8270 or the Lake's main office at 434-325-8181.

## *Seasons Condominium Update*

*Article By: Jack Daly*

The WPOA Board invited the Seasons Condominium owners and developers to its meeting on Feb. 19, 2010 to discuss the status of the project. The Season's project is the unfinished group of condos at the corner of Blue Ridge and Wintergreen Drives near the Wintergarden.

Henry Smith of Central Virginia Builders and J.P. Williamson of Octagon Partners (owners of the Season's project) attended the meeting. They indicated that although they remain fully committed to the project, they are unable to complete the project in the near future, due to the economic and housing downturn. They have not sold any of the condo units to date.

After hearing concerns by Board members about the unsightly condition of the project, both gentlemen committed to move forward with elements of the storm water retention system and start preliminary landscaping. A landscaping plan will be presented to the Board at its next meeting on April 16, 2010.

It was also noted that there are rumors of 2 additional condo buildings to be started on the backend of the corner closest to the Black Bear Café. Mr. Williamson indicated that this rumor was untrue. However, they have begun to improve that location with the necessary infrastructure for future construction.

Finally, several Board members closed with their dissatisfaction of the lack of progress on the project and reminded the owners that they are currently in violation of the WPOA covenants.

---

## *Wintergreen Fire and Rescue*

*Article By: Curtis Sheets*

Here's to a winter never to be repeated!....But just in case it is, here's the top ten things you can do to help out your local Fire Department and Rescue Squad before the next flake falls.

- 1) Make sure you have a reliable smoke detector and CO Detector. Back-up heat sources can keep you warm, but they can also kill you.
- 2) If your address sign is a foot off the ground, consider moving it up. If you don't have one, consider getting one. If your sign displays your lot number instead of, or in addition to your 911 address, consider using it as firewood.
- 3) Always pay close attention to the weather forecast, especially during the winter. Prepare accordingly.
- 4) Just because the weather seems fine where you may be traveling from, it may not be fine at Wintergreen. Call ahead if you are unsure.
- 5) Rear-wheel drive vehicles are generally of no use at Wintergreen during periods of inclement weather. They slow down progress of plows and emergency vehicles.
- 6) Front-wheel drive vehicles and four-wheel drive vehicles with substandard tires are also of little to no use at Wintergreen in the snow. Consider replacing your tires just before Winter, or keep a separate set of snow tires which can be placed on your vehicle from December through March.
- 7) Once you arrive at your Wintergreen abode, if the weather is horrible, stay home and enjoy watching the splendor of nature. If you must go out, carpool, or use the shuttle.
- 8) Keep plenty of blankets and extra clothes in your home and your car in case you become stranded without heat for extended periods of time.
- 9) If you have a wood burning fireplace, consider replacing it with gas logs. Gas logs are so much safer, and you won't have to go out in the snow for wood.
- 10) Locate the fire hydrant nearest your residence and make sure snow doesn't cover it up. There are hundreds of fire hydrants. We can't be responsible for them all, but you can easily be responsible for one.

Lastly, I want to mention something which doesn't really help us, but can certainly help you. Make sure you have taken every precaution to keep your pipes from freezing. If you are only in your home for the weekends, consider winterizing each time you leave. One power outage could literally cost you tens of thousands of dollars. Consider having one of the home maintenance services at Wintergreen keep frequent checks on your home.

Wintergreen Fire Department Commits to National Physical Agility Standard

Article By: Curtis Sheets

**Wintergreen Fire Department Commits to National Physical Agility Standard**

The staff of Wintergreen Fire & Rescue will soon comply with a voluntary standard which has become the gold standard of career fire departments over the last few years. Staff members will complete 9 different physical agility stations which will test strength, endurance, ability to deal with confined spaces, and their ability to deal with extreme heights. All staff will be tested in May to establish a benchmark and will then be tested in November to confirm improvement. By November of 2011, all staff must pass the evaluation in a predetermined amount of time and with an ending heart rate and blood pressure rate which falls within acceptable limits.

Needless to say, this is a major undertaking for our department. Each staff member has been evaluated by a dietitian and certified trainer to develop an individual game plan. **Wintergreen Fire & Rescue would like to thank WPI for allowing our full-time career staff to access their fitness facilities on the mountain and in the valley during “off-peak” hours.** If you should happen to see any of our guys or gals in the gym sweating it out, please offer them encouraging words!

.....  
A Stihl Christmas in April

Article By: Curtis Sheets

The “Saw Santa” strikes again! (State-of-the-art Stihl Fire/Rescue ventilation saw donation)

It’s Christmas in April again for the Wintergreen Fire Department thanks to property owner **Fred Whyte, President of Stihl Incorporated.** Over the years, the Wintergreen Fire Department has used four different brands of chainsaws and leaf blowers. Three years ago, the decision was made to switch exclusively to Stihl due to their extremely high reliability. Last year, a nice gentleman and his wife stopped by the fire station to introduce themselves as new owners on the mountain. A few weeks later, a few new saws arrived. Again this year Mr. Whyte has chosen to donate product in lieu of an annual contribution to the Fire Department fund drive. Obviously this is a win-win and the perfect example of the type of relationships the Fire Department actively seeks with property owners who may have connections to corporations which manufacture goods or provide services which could benefit WFD. The same scenario holds true for Wintergreen Rescue Squad.

A huge pat on the back goes to Mr. and Mrs. Whyte for their extreme generosity. Welcome to the neighborhood.

.....  
Nature Foundation Host Meeting of Scientists on Research at Wintergreen

Article By: Doug Coleman

**On April 23 the Nature Foundation hosted a meeting of its Science Advisory Committee to review research that the Foundation had sponsored and co sponsored over the last several years. Below are topics and portions of some of the abstracts of that meeting.**

**Life history of a long-lived fern, *Osmunda claytoniana***

Janet C. Steven, Sweet Briar College

Zoë Smith, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

Interrupted ferns (*Osmunda claytoniana*) are native to northeastern forests in North America, and have horizontal, underground stems called rhizomes. At the tip of each rhizome, a plant sends up a clump of about 8 – 12 leaves. The rhizomes sometimes branch, resulting in a large number of leaf clumps in an area of the forest that are a single clone. Estimates of rhizome growth rates suggest that ferns grow about one to two centimeters a year; therefore, a patch of ferns in the forest has the potential to be hundreds of years old. Because connections between plants rot over time, we are developing genetic markers to use in determining the age and size of clones. The markers will also be used to describe patterns of genetic diversity within and among populations of interrupted fern. These investigations will provide important conservation information for this long-lived and slow-growing plant species.

**Managing the Wintergreen Environment: Past, Present and Future**

Josh Palumbo, Forest Management Coordinator

TWNF working with WPOA is committed to providing a continuity in it’s research and management of the Wintergreen environment. This is evident through our yearly studies of gypsy moth, deer population and water quality. TWNF is also dedicated to filling in any current knowledge gaps which is apparent by the addition of two new studies, the hard mast survey and the Wintergreen hunters survey. With an eye on the future, TWNF will begin monitoring for Virginia’s newest forest pest, emerald ash borer.

---

## ***Nature Foundation Host Meeting of Scientists on Research at Wintergreen- Cont.***

*Article By: Doug Coleman*

### **TWNF Native Plant Propagation Program**

Jean Bertelsen, plant propagation and TWNF board president

The TWNF Plant Propagation Program began as the Wildflower Germination Project in 1998, under the direction of Pam Gallery, with the involvement of several volunteers and staff. The program's purpose was to study and document the specific propagation requirements of wildflowers in this area. The group began collecting seeds in the fall of 1998 and planted their first seeds in the early spring of 1999. They studied 9 species of herbaceous plants and succeeded in propagating and growing approximately 160 plants from the seeds collected. Today, 15 volunteers, with the help of staff, Larry Steward of Ohio State University and a summer intern, propagate over 40 herbaceous, 13 fern and 15 woody plant species and produce over 3,000 plants annually. Propagation methods now include cutting as well as seed propagation. The group has learned and documented a great deal about how to handle each seed, spore or cutting, and, for several species, has increased the germination rate and/or reduced the time required to produce a saleable plant. Data has been collected for each species propagated and resides in a database maintained by the volunteers. Group members plan to synthesize data into publishable protocols from the data. The group continues to experiment with propagating additional species through seed and cutting propagation methods.

### **The Vascular Flora of the Allen Creek Preserve**

Doug Coleman, TWNF Director

The Allen Creek Preserve is an approximate 7 acre wetland that was donated to The Wintergreen Nature Foundation in 2004 by the developer as a concession to adjacent golf course development that occurred on its northern edge. Located within the Wintergreen Community (N 37 53.982', W 078 51.904') along Allen Creek and due east of the Lake Monacan dam, it encompasses several plant communities and is accessible by boardwalk and a foot path. Seasonal flooding occasionally limits access.

Doug Coleman and Ohio State Intern Derrick Sheets mapped three ecosystems within the preserve with Arc view GIS, and collected and identified 243 species within the mapped area including 25 new Nelson County records. Specimens are stored and still need a final check with confirmed herbarium collections.

### **Small-whorled Pogonia –unraveling the mystery of its ecology**

Dennis Whigham, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

*Isotria medeoloides* is the rarest orchid in the eastern U.S; extinct in several states and threatened or endangered in others. Small populations exist at Prince William Forest Park (PWFP), at nearby federal military facilities (Fort A.P. Hill, Quantico) and along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Basic information exists for the species but additional knowledge is needed to effectively conserve and restore populations. We have augmented existing information with studies at PWFP and Fort A.P. Hill and will initiate studies along in Shenandoah National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway in 2010. The research will focus on life history ecology and identification and characterization of mycorrhizal fungi, and studies of seed ecology in the laboratory and field. Most species' attributes that we have examined thus far indicate that many challenges lie ahead as we pursue conservation and restoration methods. No seeds, for example, have ever been successfully germinated. Individual populations are very dynamic, dormancy appears to be an important element of its ecology, interactions with ectomycorrhizal fungi are complex, and germinating seeds and growing seedlings remain a technical challenge.

### **Filling in the Gaps: Wintergreen Archaeology Project**

Carole Nash, James Madison University 2010 marks the eighth year of the collaboration between The Wintergreen Nature Foundation and James Madison University on the Wintergreen Archaeology Project. In addition to training over four dozen JMU students TWNF volunteers, and students in the Archeological Society of Virginia Archaeological Technician Certification Program, the survey and testing undertaken at Wintergreen is opening new doors for archaeological research in the Appalachian region. The 45 recorded prehistoric sites cover a 10,000 year time period and indicate intensive seasonal settlement and cultural interaction, undoing decades-old descriptions of mountains as peripheral to lowland occupations. Research questions on hunter-gatherer mobility, social networking and exchange are being explored through the analysis of site location and artifact assemblages.

## *Wintergreen Performing Arts-Summer 2010- Vienna!*

*Article By: Larry Allen Smith, WPA's Artistic and Executive Director*

The 2010 Festival has been planned, the ticket booklet has been designed and in early May, thousands of copies will be sent to households across the Mid-Atlantic region. The 36-page booklet outlines nearly 300 events and performances that will take place between July 5 and August 1. If you would like to take a sneak peek, please visit [www.wintergreenperformingarts.org](http://www.wintergreenperformingarts.org). Copies of the booklet can also be requested by sending an e-mail to [info@wintergreenperformingarts.org](mailto:info@wintergreenperformingarts.org).



The 2010 theme is **Vienna** (as in Austria), and everything that is planned pays tribute to the music capital of the world. The Wintergreen Festival Orchestra will be in residence for four weeks, numerous guest artists will appear and every single day is packed with a variety of exciting events that will appeal to a broad spectrum of tastes and interests. Yes . . . music is our primary focus, but you will also find dance, film, theatre, lectures, cooking classes, the visual arts and much more.

Don't miss the pops concerts on July 14 (Robert Jospé and Inner Rhythm performing the music of Austrian jazz legend Joe Zawinul), July 21 (Elisabeth von Trapp and The Blue Train) and July 28 (Viennese Pops with the Wintergreen Festival Orchestra and guest conductor Alfred Savia). By the way, Elisabeth (see photo) is the granddaughter of Maria and Baron von Trapp!



Most of the events will take place at Wintergreen Resort, but there will also be a number of events in Charlottesville this year, including three concerts at Monticello and a series of events at art gallery Les Yeux du Monde. Works by Austrian painter Wolfgang Seierl will be presented at the gallery from July 20-31. In addition to this exhibition, there will also be two exhibitions on loan from the Austrian Cultural Forum in Washington, DC. *Vienna Café 1900* and *The Paintings of Alice Mavrogordato* will be shown in the Old Wintergreen Country Store, formerly Spruce Creek Gallery.



The cooking classes have become a Festival tradition, and while the format is a little different this year, we anticipate that all seven classes will be sold out once tickets go on sale on Monday, May 10 at 9:00 am. There will be two Austrian chefs, Wilhelm Jonach and Marco Krainer (see photo). Chef Krainer is a TV chef in Europe. He will appear at the Saturday Seminar on July 17, and he will be preparing a very special meal for a limited number of lucky people that evening.

The 2010 Festival includes numerous special events, including the Opening Night Reception and Performance on July 7 and Lunch with the Ambassador on July 8. His Excellency Dr. Christian Prosl (see photo), Ambassador of Austria to the United States, will be in attendance for both of these events. There will be a Wintergreen Viennese Film Festival, the world premiere of a new theatre piece about Mozart, performances by Bowen McCauley Dance and numerous other extraordinary offerings.



The Festival is becoming known both nationally and internationally because of the quality and breadth of our programming, as well as recent, high-profile magazine articles. Visitors are coming from many different parts of the United States, and we have had visitors from abroad as well. In fact, last summer, two people decided to move to Wintergreen because of their experience at the Festival. However, I continue to encounter Wintergreen residents (full-time and part-time) who have never attended a Festival event. As the Austrians would say . . . *unglaublich!* So . . . I offer a special challenge to anyone reading this article. If you have never attended a Wintergreen Summer Music Festival event, send me an e-mail with your name and address, and I will send you a certificate that will be good for two free tickets to any one of our four Saturday Seminars (a \$30 value). My e-mail address is [larryalansmith@wintergreenperformingarts.org](mailto:larryalansmith@wintergreenperformingarts.org). WPA brings visibility, visitors and economic activity into the region each summer. Your attendance at Festival events is vitally important. Plus . . . I think you will have a great time!

Finally . . . please don't forget about our other summer events . . . the Festival of Wine and Food on Sunday, May 30; the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Ridge Mountain Music Fest on Saturday, August 21; the International Wine and Food Festival on Saturday, September 4 and Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 25. Your support of our events will ensure our continued success. We want to be a part of your summer plans!

## Virginia's First Bear Smart Community

Article By: Jaime Sajecki

Wintergreen residents choose proactive  
measures to coexist with black bears

Wintergreen Resort, a residential and vacation community nestled against the Blue Ridge Parkway in Nelson County, is a place where it is sometimes hard to tell where the forest ends and the real estate begins, especially if you are a bear. Prompted by a series of break-ins by bears to resort homes in 2007 and the removal or euthanasia of nine bears over two years, Wintergreen residents decided to take action to make theirs a community where both people and bears could coexist.

Wintergreen Property Owners Association staff and Wintergreen Police began cooperating with Department (DGIF) biologists and law enforcement officers on measures to curtail the bear-related problems occurring at the resort. Public refuse facilities were secured and homeowners were advised on managing trash and bird feeders. And to increase bear awareness by residents and visitors, the Wintergreen Nature Foundation hosted a seminar given by DGIF on black bears, with focus on preventing further negative interactions.

Fueled by a strong desire to prevent future conflicts, Wintergreen residents Sarah and Robert Scott founded the Wintergreen Bear Smart program. After reading about the Bear Smart effort in British Columbia in the book *Living with Bears: A Practical Guide to Bear Country* by Linda Masterson, the Scotts decided to start their own Bear Smart community.

The Wintergreen Bear Smart program is governed by a seven-person council, made up of full-time residents. The council assessed the conditions that were contributing to the habituation of bears to people such as bird feeding and unsecured garbage. Another important task was to gain the cooperation of other Wintergreen community organizations to support the new Bear Smart program.

The success that the Bear Smart program has experienced can be seen in the numbers. Since 2007, the number of bear incidents has dropped by over 80%, and those resulting in damage to homes or property have decreased by over 90%. In 2009, a few bears were seen and at least one window screen was damaged, but harassment by Wintergreen police proved effective. No traps were set and no bears were euthanized.

So, how did this community begin their road to successful and harmonious coexistence of humans and bears? To begin the process, concerned Wintergreen residents met with the local DGIF district wildlife biologist to discuss the Bear Smart program. Then, by following Bear Smart guidelines, they established the Bear Smart Council and met with each of the various boards at Wintergreen to explain the program and solicit cooperation. From these meetings, the council received full commitment from the various boards, including the Wintergreen Property Owners Association Board, which had already begun to minimize conflicts at trash disposal sites. The next step focused on media outreach and programs for local groups to promote communitywide efforts.

Another major step occurred when the property owners association passed resolutions requiring homeowners to stop feeding birds between April 1 and December 1 and banned outside garbage cans unless they were bear-proof. The council requested that the association purchase bear-proof containers for public-use areas, in addition to the large compactors already on-site.

Other proactive measures taken by the Wintergreen community included record-keeping by Wintergreen Police on bear incidents and sightings, and immediate response by the police department to all bear incidents. The Wintergreen Property Owners Association agreed to pay for and put up signs, as well as post information on their Web site concerning bear activity in the area. Wintergreen Partners, Inc. provided garbage management and bear literature to arriving resort guests. They also show the Department's DVD, *Living with Black Bears in Virginia*, on the in-house TV. In addition to no longer selling bird food from April to December, the Wintergreen Nature Foundation published a special brochure on black bears that includes precautions when encountering bears in the wild and around homes. The foundation also has the black bears DVD available for viewing by visitors.

When asked to provide advice for communities that might want to start a Bear Smart program of their own, the Scotts offer the following tips:

- It must be a citizens' effort to engage the various entities who have a stake in managing the bear problem in the community.
- The education of community members regarding the habituation of bears is essential.
- It is important to not assign blame for the problem to various people or agencies and, rather, just deal with the facts on what is happening and what would solve the problem.

Also, an assessment of community conditions (found at <http://www.bearsmart.com/becoming-bearsmart/community/bear-hazardassessments>) was reported along with recommendations to each community entity.

What does the future hold for human-bear relationships on this 11,000-acre community on the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains? The Bear Smart Council pledges to continue to educate the community regarding program progress and bring awareness to continuing problems. The Wintergreen Property Owners Association will continue to send out letters to residents yearly reminding them of their responsibilities, enforce bird feeding and trash regulations, and keep DGIF up-to-date on non-compliance or illegal

Virginia's First Bear Smart Community- Cont.

Article By: Jaime Sajecki

feeding activities. The Department will continue to support this program and community by providing education and enforcement as needed.

The Bear Smart Council, residents, and all Wintergreen entities understand that the Bear Smart program will be an ongoing effort with continuing challenges due to the constant influx of new residents and guests. However, they feel that the reward—being able to live in a community surrounded by the beauty of the natural world and associated wildlife, with little to no conflict—is worth the challenge.

All residents of Virginia living in bear country can benefit from following a few simple guidelines to reduce bear attractants around their homes. View tips and guidelines by watching the video, *Living with Black Bears in Virginia*, on the DGIF Web site ([www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/ bear/](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/bear/)). To learn about becoming a Bear Smart Community, first contact this Department for site-specific assistance and recommendations, and visit the Get Bear Smart Society Web site: [ww.bearsmart.com](http://ww.bearsmart.com).

Article reprinted from the Virginia Wildlife Magazine  
February 2010  
www.HuntFishVA.com  
Magazine subscription-related calls Only 1-800-710-9369

Reminder:  
Please refrain from feeding the birds between April 1 and December 1. Also, outside garbage cans are not permitted unless they are bear proof.



The Wintergreen Property Owners Association Annual Meeting Date has been set for:

**October 23, 2010, in the Skyline Pavilion at 10:00 a.m.**  
*(this represents a change from Thanksgiving weekend)*

**Nomination for the WPOA Board of Directors Vacancies**

The WPOA membership will be electing three (3) members to the WPOA Board of Directors this fall at the annual meeting. Those elected will serve a four (4) year term beginning in October 2010.

Being a member of the WPOA Board means that you will take part in guiding the affairs of the Association by providing policy, guidance and direction to the Executive Director and staff. Elected members will be expected to attend at least six (6) regularly scheduled meetings annually and to participate as a member of at least one (1) of the several WPOA committees.

This is the time for active community minded people to take the opportunity to participate and become involved in the governing of Wintergreen.

Property owners in particular who have been active in the Mountain Homesteaders, the Wintergreen Valley Association or a condominium regime are encouraged to apply.

We emphasize that all property owners who are community minded and are inclined by desire and /or background to be of service to their fellow association members should seriously consider becoming a candidate for election to the Board. Please send application by mail to the Nominating Committee Chairman, John Harrington , C/O WPOA, 88 Wintergreen Drive, Wintergreen Resort, VA 22967 or you can download the application from our website [www.wtgpoa.org](http://www.wtgpoa.org) and return it by mail or email [wpoa@aol.com](mailto:wpoa@aol.com).

**Applications must be received no later than August 1, 2010.**

**Please include the following information listed below for the Annual Mailing Packet:**

**Name: Wintergreen Lot Address: Address: City: State: Zip: Home Telephone: Wintergreen Telephone: Office Telephone:  
Email Address: Occupation:**

**Please list current or previous involvement in Wintergreen Affairs, if any. Also, explain why you wish to be a WPOA Director and what you feel you could contribute to the organization operation. Please limit your remarks to 250 words or less.**

Watch for your annual packet mid September 2010

The newsletter of the Wintergreen  
Property Owners Association

WPOA  
88 Wintergreen Drive  
Wintergreen Resort, VA 22967

Phone: 434-325-8524  
Fax: 434-325-1464  
E-mail: [wpoa@aol.com](mailto:wpoa@aol.com)

We're on the web!!  
[www.wtgpoa.org](http://www.wtgpoa.org)

## WPOA ADDRESS CHANGE

ATTENTION: Property Owners paying Annual Assessments using **Online Banking**. Please change the address for WPOA in your vendor file. We have CLOSED P. O. Box 587 in zip 22958.

Our new address is:

Wintergreen Property Owners Association, Inc. (WPOA)

**88 Wintergreen Drive**

**Wintergreen Resort, VA 22967-2162**

Please make this important change so your annual assessment will get to us in time. This change also applies to Wintergreen Police Department and WPOA Private Homes Landscaping payments.

(This address change does not apply to Wintergreen Partners Incorporated or Condo Regimes)