

SADDLE RIDGE



Volume 20 • Issue 2

The Ridge Rambler

SUMMER/FALL 2012



Musings from Melba

by Melba Harmon

This Summer has flown by. The weather has been so nice lately that this is the first year I have lived here that I have not counted the days until Fall. We have had our share of problems this Summer from storms with lengthy power outages, yellow jacket stings

and destruction by wild hogs. I guess that is the price we pay for living where we do. One thing I know for sure is that when the storms hit, many people from Saddle Ridge pitched in to help.

The SRPOA Annual Meeting breakfast in July was a huge success. The ladies of Saddle Ridge can cook. Please accept my apologies if any of the dishes were made by the men.

I know that Scott Schehr recognizes Barb for all of her hard work later in this issue but I would also like to thank Barb Clinansmith for chairing the Hospitality Committee for many years. Barb has been the driving force behind welcoming new neighbors, the fine meals and other events we have all enjoyed. Ann Tedford has agreed to Chair the committee, but Barb will continue to work with her.

There seems to be a lot of bear activity around Saddle Ridge these days. They are starting the hyperphasia or gluttony mode to get ready for hibernation. I have been giving talks about co-existing with bears to schools and civic groups for several years and would be more than willing to give a talk to my Saddle Ridge neighbors if there is interest. Ann Tedford has graciously offered to host the event and we could have a pot luck. Please email me at melba.harmon@gmail.com if this is something you would be interested in. 🐻

Upcoming dates to remember:

September 17
Ladies of Saddle Ridge Book Club
See Page 3 for more info

September 28 & 29
Fall Heritage Festival and Old Timers' Day

September 29
Railroad Days at the Little River Railroad Museum

October 6
Fall Cookout at the Saddle Ridge barn
See Page 4 for more info

October 6-7
Smoky Mountains Woodcarvers Festival

December 2
Townsend Christmas Parade

July 2013
Annual Meeting

Message From The President

by Scott Schehr

ANNUAL MEETING

Summer greetings all of the Saddle Ridge community! Recently we enjoyed our Annual Meeting of the Saddle Ridge property owners. We had an excellent potluck breakfast hosted by the members of the Events Committee, who as always, made it a very enjoyable experience. This was the final event under the leadership of Barb Clinansmith, who turned over the chairmanship of the Events Committee to Ann Tedford. We have all appreciated the commitment and hard work that Barb has put into the Committee over the years; she is a great role model for all of us.

In the election of new board members, we sadly said goodbye to two of our most dedicated and valuable board members, Jim Harmon and Jim Tedford. Both had served the maximum of two, three-year terms. They leave a rich legacy of dedication and accomplishment for our new board members, Hugh Pearson and Ann Tedford, to aspire toward.

Several highlights of note from the meeting:

- We had an excellent budget year, which allowed us to pay off the mortgage on the SRPOA lots several years early;
- In accordance with the CCR and bylaws this was a year that annual property owner fees could be raised. The board determined that a ten percent raise should be made: \$550 for lots with homes and \$275 for undeveloped lots. However, collection of the increase is suspended indefinitely and will only be collected if the Board finds urgent need in the future;
- We announced the adoption of the CCR interpretation that the Board has developed over the past two years, with much support and input from our property owners. We feel it provides a framework for making decisions that are up-to-date and for the benefit of all property owners;
- We recognized the new signage at the entrance to Saddle Ridge Road with appreciation to Tom Grimes and Jackie Gignac for their efforts in acquiring, completing and installing the signs.

The SRPOA board was very gratified by the large turnout for the meeting and the warm reception by the property owners in attendance. It is a pleasure to serve when your efforts meet with acceptance and approval. Thank you.



Photo from Annual Meeting, July 2012

VOLUNTEER SPIRIT

On July 5th we had one of those events that define us. A very powerful storm system passed through the area, downing numerous trees and causing the loss of power and telephone service for most of our residents. Sadly, two people lost their lives in the National Park. The Saddle Ridge residents once again rose to the occasion, with many folks out checking their neighbors well-being and removing trees from the roads. The many who helped are too numerous to list, but they should know that we all thank them very much for their kindness.

Alcoa Electric and their contractors worked tirelessly to restore power. With the number of trees down, it was almost miraculous that we had the majority of power back within two days. The Board will be sending them a letter of appreciation for their efforts.

Recently one of our residents, Charlise Kerr, was stung by a wasp or hornet and started to go into anaphylactic shock.

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News from the Beautification Committee

Martha Frink

Thanks to everyone who has donated their time to clean the mail and newspaper boxes, weed, compost, and put down straw, wash the trash building and clean out the drain pipes.

Special thanks to Judy Pearson, Bob and Margie Hood, Jackie Gignac and Tom Grimes, Sarah Williams, Connie Evans and Scott and Theresa Schehr for all of your hard work in maintaining the beauty of Saddle Ridge.

We also need a volunteer to stain the kiosk.

We will be having another clean-up in the Fall. More information will follow. 🌿

Welcome new Saddle Ridge residents and future residents and their families!

William Tennant

The Morrison Family ~ Walnut Flats

If you are one of these people, drop us a line and let us know how you found Saddle Ridge and why you chose to live here. Send your story to

Roxanne Clapp, Co-Editor.

Rox@rox-c.com.



Firewise Tip

Inspect your shingles or roof tiles. Replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration.



Thanks to Bob Hood for his many years of tireless work on the roads of Saddle Ridge.

He sure has set a high standard for Darin to follow!



Ladies Saddle Ridge Book Club

Date: September 17, 2012

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Book: *Crossing the Borders of Time* by Leslie Maitland

Location: The Jewell Residence

Contact: Barbara @ 865-380-0360

NEW CONTRACTOR GATE CODES

The new contractor gate codes are being sent as an insert with this edition of the *Rambler*.

Local residents: Please check the black mail box at the kiosk.

If you didn't receive a copy, please contact Bob Frink at bobfrink@peoplepc.com

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Message From The President

Amazingly, earlier that day she had seen Tim Williams at the kiosk and put his number into her cell phone. She had the presence of mind in her distress to call Tim's cell phone although she was unable to talk at that point. Tim saw the caller id and went to her home and provided emergency care and transported Charlise to the emergency room. The hand of God was certainly on Charlise that night, and His agent was Tim Williams.

This story is only one of the examples of why I and many others feel blessed to be residents of Saddle Ridge.

BEARS

Many of us are part of group on Facebook where we can share information. Often, we relate our experiences with seeing wildlife. Recently, I have noticed a large increase in not only bear sightings, but encounters with bears. Several folks have had bears on the their decks and yards, including one incident that had a momma bear and several cubs actually move aggressively toward a sliding glass door. We have had articles in past ridge Ramblers which have discussed bear management and I will not repeat all of those details. But most of my reading, including the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency publication on black bear damage control, says that bears are opportunists who will go to the easiest food source. Those sources may include garbage, bird feeders, or intentional feeding by residents. All of these sources are under our control. The best and easiest way to eliminate nuisance bears is to remove the source of food that draws them. In the worst case, bears have to be destroyed by the TWRA after someone has suffered harm from aggressive bears. According to the TWRA website, "It is unlawful to intentionally or knowingly feed a black bear or intentionally or knowingly leave food or garbage in a manner that attracts bears." Further, "Violation of the law is a class B misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and 6 months in jail." We urgently request that all residents comply with the regulations pertaining to feeding of bears, for the well being of the bears and residents alike.

Thanks to all of you for all you do.
Please enjoy this edition of the Ridge Rambler!



SAVE THE DATE! October 6th Saddle Ridge Fall Cookout



The Fall Cookout will be held at the Saddle Ridge barn on October 6th at 5 p.m. SR will provide hotdogs, buns and condiments. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or dessert, drinks and chairs.

FALL TIP:

Trim dead branches out of the trees to prevent them from coming down and causing damage in a winter storm.

SADDLE RIDGE RESIDENTS-ONLY FACEBOOK PAGE

If you haven't signed up yet, check with Bob Hood, Page Administrator for more details: winterhawk6210@yahoo.com



A Glimpse of the Annual Meeting

If you were not able to attend the Annual Meeting, be sure to read the President's message. Here are a few photos so you can "see" what it was like to be there! Hmm... I guess the food really was good; it didn't even last long enough to get captured on film. or disk, or cell phone!



Critter Corner

Stories and accounts of the various animals, birds, and insects in Saddle Ridge.

There have been many critters crawling and flying about in Saddle Ridge lately. Yellow jackets, European hornets, bobcats, bear, deer, turkey, hogs, hummingbirds and those pesky carpenter bees!

Sadly we don't have any photos to print in our newsletter, although you can find a few on the Saddle Ridge Facebook page! Usually we are unable to use the photos posted on Facebook in the printed newsletter because the resolution is too low for print. We'd love to get photos in here as well; so email your photos directly to me too! Rox@ Rox-c.com

If you want to keep abreast of the latest sightings, make sure you are signed up on the Saddle Ridge Facebook page! See Page 4 for sign-up details. 🐞

For all your bug identification needs

BugGuide.Net

"An online resource devoted to North American insects, spiders and their kin."

3 Cheers for the New Saddle Ridge Sign!



Some of you "Ridgers" not present in the neighborhood in the past couple of months will find we have a new sign.



Thanks to Tom Grimes and Jackie Gignac for all their hard work.

SR Resident Contact Info

The Saddle Ridge home and property owners distribution list is being maintained and updated. It was determined at the most recent Board Meeting, it will not be sent out in mass in respect of homeowners' privacy.

If you need specific information about a resident, please contact a board member.

Have you seen these?

Also new is the Saddle Ridge resident vehicle identification tag that hangs from your rear view mirror. If you haven't received yours, please call Debra James at 982-8723. 🐞



Summer Storms



Debra and Frank's Big Tree

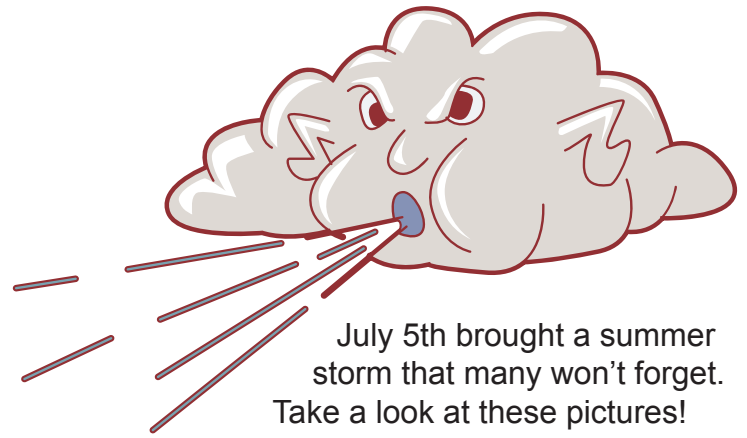


Phone and power lines down on Grouse Top

"We are grateful to those who got the trees off the road - as people only here a few times a year we are so appreciative of the Homeowners Assn. and the hard work so many offer to keep Saddle Ridge a beautiful and well-run community." — Martha Sterne

"Thanks to everyone who helped cut the tree out of Turkey Roost Road. Whew! What a sight to see. Eddie was out of town or he would have been out there cutting it. Thanks also to Hugh and Judy for checking on everyone. We have an awesome community of people who live here and I am thankful for all of you."

— Lynn Torcigliani Hopps



July 5th brought a summer storm that many won't forget. Take a look at these pictures! The storm blew down trees, power lines, and some of the phone lines are STILL down in parts of the neighborhood. Saddle Ridge residents pulled together to help each other out.

Word has it that AT&T will be out within the next couple of weeks to get those final lines replaced and repaired. Some say they won't believe it till they see it! 🌩️



Huge tree snapped off in Saddle Ridge

"A big thanks to Perry and Norm for helping clear Overlook View" —Residents on Overlook View

"I join Lynn in her feelings about this wonderful place we live. So much help, so much caring! I came back this morning armed with chainsaw and assorted family members to begin clearing the downed trees. It had already been done by Jim C., Judy and Hugh and Liz. No pleading, no whining, not even a request on my part. Done! How do you repay deeds like that other than with everlasting gratitude and a promise to pass it on."

— Nancy B. Cain

CONTACTS



Saddle Ridge • Ridge Rambler

Board Members

Scott Schehr, President	865-983-1871	scottschehr@yahoo.com
Bob Spista, Vice President	865-984-0502	spistars@hughes.net
Bill Harriman, Treasurer	865-681-3437	billharriman@hughes.net
Lynn Hopps, Secretary	865-984-7729	lthopps@hughes.net
Hugh Pearson	865-982-5729	hspearson@att.net
Ann Tedford	865-980-1757	anntedford@bellsouth.net
Debra James	865-982-8723	debra@debrajames.com
Nancy Cain	865-984-7250	ncain69665@aol.com
Darin Suggs	865-804-6449	darin.suggs@me.com

Committee Chairs

Architectural Review Committee		
Phil Spampinato	865-675-7997	rhd@tds.net
Beautification Committee		
Martha Frink	865-984-4873	marthafrink@peoplepc.com
Newsletter Committee		
Roxanne Clapp	865-982-8308	rox@rox-c.com
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Jim Tedford	865-670-1304	jtedford@alphadogmktg.com
Hospitality Committee		
Ann Tedford	865-980-1754	anntedford@bellsouth.net
Firewise Committee		
Tim & Sarah Williams	865-982-5290	timsbabe1@msn.com
Road Committee		
Darin Suggs	865-804-6449	darin.suggs@me.com

Resident Services

The Ridge Rambler lists those services that are offered by Saddle Ridge homeowners. Please submit a brief description of services you have to offer; such as electrical, handyman, etc. to Roxanne Clapp at Rox@rox-c.com. Notices are subject to space limitations. There is no charge to Saddle Ridge property/homeowners.

ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, HEATING & A/C WORK • Licensed and Insured Darin Suggs, 865-804-6449

HEMLOCK HEALTH & TREE HEALTH SERVICES
Curtis Casciano, 865-789-7642

BARN EVENT CENTER OF THE SMOKIES
A full service event center for parties, business meetings, weddings, etc. Off-site catering is offered as well. Contact Richard or Debbie Way at 865-448-9378 or www.barneventcenterofthesmokies.com