

Autumn 2016 Ridge Rambler • Saddle Ridge Property Owner's
Association Newsletter • Volume 23, Issue 3

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The Ridge Rambler

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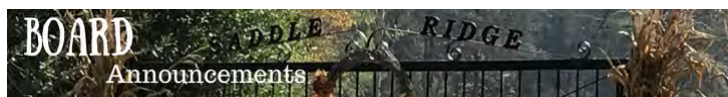
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Treasurer's Report: SRPOA Treasurer, Smitty Smith, emailed the first quarter financial statements to members on November 1. The financial statements include the Cash Flows Statement and Budget-to-Actual Statement. The Board provides these updates four times a year, including the annual report at the Annual Meeting to keep members better informed about the financial status of our Association.

If you have any questions, please contact the Board at this address: saddleridgepoa@gmail.com.

Board Meetings: The Board voted to hold quarterly meetings instead of bi-monthly meetings going forward. The next meeting

Trash Barn will be Closed Monday Mornings

The Trash Barn will now be closed every Monday morning from 7 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The garbage is picked up early Monday mornings and the barn cleaned during this time. Bringing trash at this time disrupts the emptying and cleanup processes.

Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, January 10, 2017,
5-7pm
Walland Elementary School
Family Fun Night

will be held in January 2017.

TRASH: Here's another reminder of what NOT to put in, or around, the garbage shed: construction waste, hazardous material, grills, mattresses or large items. Our waste removal service, HGS, will NOT take these items. It means someone has to volunteer their time and money to take care of someone else's garbage.

Property owners are responsible for properly dispose of any construction or remodeling debris and hazardous material, such as paint, stain, or sealer. You can take your waste to the [Blount County Landfill](#), 240 Long Powers Road, Friendsville, TN 37737. There is a minimum tipping fee. [Hazardous waste](#) should be taken to Spectra Environmental Group Inc. 225 Brookdale Road, Maryville.

The items pictured here are examples of hazardous waste and construction material and should NOT have been dropped at the trash barn:



Trespassers in Saddle Ridge: There have been several reports of trespassers spotted in Saddle Ridge. We suspect that there are 2 individuals in particular, that repeatedly enter Saddle Ridge on foot to poach ginseng and, perhaps, other plants or animals. Last summer they parked on East Millers Cove Road and brazenly walked into Saddle Ridge. If you see suspicious people or cars, report it, take a picture of their car and license plate, check with your neighbors, post your sighting on our SR Facebook page so everyone can be on the lookout, and let a board member know. If you have any doubts, call the Blount County Sheriff's Office (865) 273-5000.

Firewise

Late Breaking news: A wildfire broke out behind the Walland Elementary School on Thursday, November 17, around 1 pm. It

Get Involved

Join one of our Saddle Ridge POA committees and contribute to the community. There are 5 standing committees:

- Architectural,
- Communications,
- Environment, Events,
- and Roads.

Check out the [Charter](#) for each of the 5 SRPOA standing committees:

- Architecture
- Road
- Communications
- Environment
- Events/Hospitality

Contact your SRPOA Board:

Email: saddleridgepoa@gmail.com

Board members and committee chairs are listed below and also on the [Saddle Ridge website](#)

President:
Steve Foster
859-494-7299

Vice President:
Hugh Pearson
865-982-5729

Treasurer:
Smitty
(G. Robert Smith, Jr.)
615-631-5836

Secretary:
Lynn Hopps
865-984-7729

had engulfed nearly 600 acres as of Saturday morning. Although smoke from the fire has permeated the community, no evacuation of Saddle Ridge was recommended as of Saturday.



Given the elevated threat of wildfire, this is a good time to review your family's emergency evacuation plan and take steps to reduce the threat of fire on your property.

Emergency Fire Exit: Do you have an evacuation plan in the event of a forest fire or flood? Did you know there is an emergency route out of Saddle Ridge if Saddle Ridge Road or East Millers Cove Road is blocked? ([link to SR map](#))

To access the emergency exit, take Chilhowee Loop to Bear Paw, left onto Bear Paw, right onto Walnut Flats (correction from last issue), left onto Skytop then drive to the end of Skytop Road. Look for the National Park Boundary sign then proceed on foot for about 200 yards following the old logging road which leads to the Foothills Parkway. Emergency crews will pick up residents from the Foothills Parkway.

Firewise Tips– Protect Your Home

7 Ways Residents Can Reduce the Risk that their Homes & Property Will Become Fuel for a Wildfire ([link to Firewise flyer](#))

Recorder:
Ann Tedford
865-980-1757

Board Members:
Darin Suggs
865-804-6449

Sue DuBois
407-758-8275

Tom Braun
225-281-3889

Ken LaValley
865-970-6410

[Board Bios](#)

Meet your board members on the SRPOA website.

[Saddle Ridge's Facebook](#) page is a great place to read and share up-to-the-minute news of the community. If you are not already a member, contact Lynn Hopps, lhoppes@gmail.com, to join the private Facebook group.



Thank you Judy Pearson for the creative Fall decorations.

Get Involved

Protect Your Home

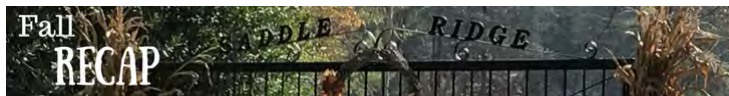
7 Ways Residents Can Reduce the Risk that their Homes & Property Will Become Fuel for a Wildfire

- #1 Clear**
Clear off pine needles, dead leaves & anything that can burn from your rooflines, gutters, decks, porches, patios & along fence lines. Falling embers will have nothing to burn.
- #2 Store Away**
Store away furniture cushions, rattan mats, potted plants & other decorations from decks, porches & patios. These items catch embers and help ignite your home if you leave them outside.
- #3 Screen & Seal**
Wind-borne embers can get into homes easily through vents & other openings and burn the home from the inside out. Walk around your house to see what openings you can screen or temporarily seal up.
- #4 Rake**
Embers landing in mulch that touches your house, deck or fence is a big fire hazard. Rake out any landscaping mulch to at least five feet away.
- #5 Trim**
Trim back any shrubs or tree branches that come closer than 5 feet to the house and attachments, and any overhanging branches.
- #6 Remove**
Walk around your house and remove anything within 30 feet that could burn, such as woodpiles, spare lumber, vehicles and boats – anything that can act as a large fuel source.
- #7 Close**
If ordered to evacuate, make sure all windows & doors are closed tightly, and seal up any pet doors. Many homes are destroyed by embers entering these openings and burning the house from the inside out.

 NFPA has many more tips and safety recommendations on its websites, including www.firewise.org.

For more details about active fires in the area, air quality, and how to be firewise go to:

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



Saddle Ridge Fall Cookout: The Saddle Ridge Fall Cookout was held on Sunday, October 9. Ann Tedford and the Events Committee did another great job of hosting the event which was held in the barn area.

Saddle Ridge Fall Cleanup: Turnout for the Saddle Ridge Fall Cleanup on Saturday, October 22, was terrific. Twenty-nine volunteers removed 24 bags of trash (and 1 really nasty mattress) from East Millers Cove Road. [Keep Blount Beautiful](#) provides supplies for the road cleanup and we report our results (volunteer time and quantity of litter hauled off). Inside Saddle Ridge, volunteers weeded the community flower beds, washed the mailboxes, removed tree debris from the roadsides, cut and treated invasive mimosa trees along Chilhowee, cleaned the barn area, mowed the pasture, AND hauled all the trash off to the landfill.

Join one of our Saddle Ridge POA committees and contribute to the community.

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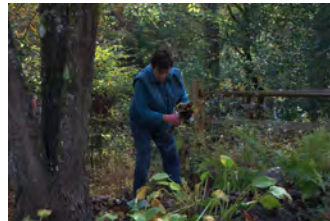
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865-984-7729

Recorder:
Ann Tedford
865-980-1757

Board Members:
Darin Suggs
865-804-6449

Thank you to all the volunteers:

Judy Pearson
 Margaret Sanders
 Frank Akers
 Tom Braun
 Roxanne and Larry Clapp
 Barbara and Jim Clinansmith
 Fred Deussing
 Sue DuBois
 Tim and Connie Evans
 Martha Frink
 Mary and Dave Glarner
 Gary Niebert
 Diane and Gumby Rule
 Keith Schuster
 Betsy and Smitty Smith
 Norm Strand
 Ann and Jim Tedford
 Sue and John Urban
 Alane, Alex and Rowen Wyss



Sue DuBois
 407-758-8275

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Committee Chairpersons

Events and Hospitality
 Committee
 Ann Tedford

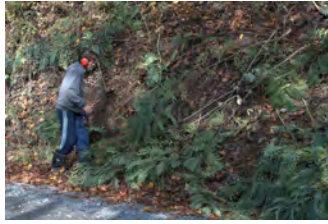
Environment Committee
 Sue DuBois

Communications Committee
 Lynn Hopps

Road Committee
 Darin Suggs

Architectural Committee
 Darin Suggs

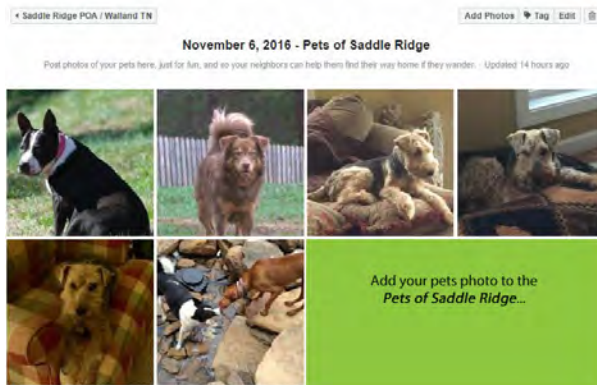
[Nature Walk](#)



[Pets of Saddle Ridge Photo Album](#)

Check out the [Pets of Saddle Ridge Album](#) on the Saddle Ridge Facebook Group. (If you are not a member of the Facebook Saddle Ridge Group contact [Lynn Hopps](#) to be added.)

If you have pets, this is a great place to share a photo and description for identification purposes. It's also just fun to see photos all those furry residents (feathered and scaled included). If they wander, and we know sometimes they do, having a photo out there can help get them headed home. Upload your pets photo with your name, their name, and a brief description. On the SR Facebook Group page, click on the Photos tab, then the Albums tab to add your photos, or go to this [link](#).



On August 31, residents were treated to another expert guided nature walk. This time the topic was exploring the wetlands. Naturalist and Saddle Ridge resident, Liz Domingue, talked to us about plants and wildlife in the wetlands. Alex Wyss, also a Saddle Ridge resident and the Director of Conservation Programs for the Nature Conservancy, talked to us about the history of the wetlands area. We're pretty fortunate here in Saddle Ridge to have great natural assets and really knowledgeable neighbors!



Stay tuned for future Nature Walks!

Interests & Activities

Have an idea for a group activity?

Have a potluck recipe to share?

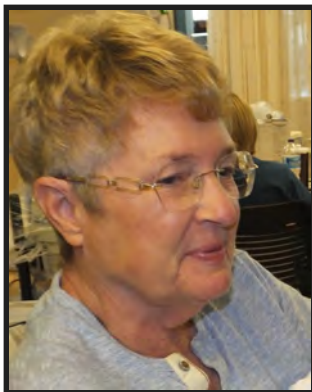
Please contact us at info@saddleridgepoa.com, and we will post it to our web site.

On The Move...

Joan and John Jackson have purchased Nancy Cain's

Making a Difference

by Judy Pearson



An old man walking the beach one morning saw a young boy picking up starfish and flinging them into the sea. When he asked the boy why, his answer was the stranded starfish would die if left in the sun.

"But how can your effort make any difference with miles of beach and millions of starfish?"

asked the old man. The boy looked at the starfish in his hand and then threw him safely back into the sea. And as he did this he said, "It makes a difference to this one!" Author – Anonymous

As I read this story, it makes me think of the people of Saddle Ridge. You've provided the teachers and students of Walland Elementary School a long list of supplies: 72 headphone sets, 5 CD players, folders, dry erase markers, lead and colored pencils, poster boards, yard sticks, tape measures, Time for Kids subscription, just to name a few. You have done this over and over again for the past 4 years donating about \$26,000. WOW!

As the young boy said "It makes a difference to this one." And for each and every one of the Walland Elementary students, Saddle Ridge property owners have made a difference.

Are there still needs at this time? Yes! I will put a revised list at the kiosk and post it on our website.

It is the wish of the teachers and myself to say a heartfelt thank you to all who have helped year after year. May each and everyone have a wonderful holiday season and a warm spot in your heart for all the teachers and girls and boys of Walland Elementary School, "The Ones" for which Saddle Ridge made a difference.

Beyond Saddle Ridge

Three Sisters Development:

Several Saddle Ridge residents attended a Blount County Board of Zoning Appeals hearing on September 29 to learn more about a request by Three Sisters One, LLC, for an amendment to their Blackberry Mountain site plan. Three Sisters One, LLC owns a

home on Turkey Roost Road.

Patty and Perry Burchfield have purchased two of Mark Denton's lots off of Waters End Road.

Larry and Debra Vonberg purchased a lot formerly owned by Joe & Penny Kolba on Overlook View Road

If anyone has any information about the history, or photos of the land, prior to development of the Saddle Ridge community, send it to us (sodubois@gmail.com) and we'll share it in future issues.

The Ridge Rambler

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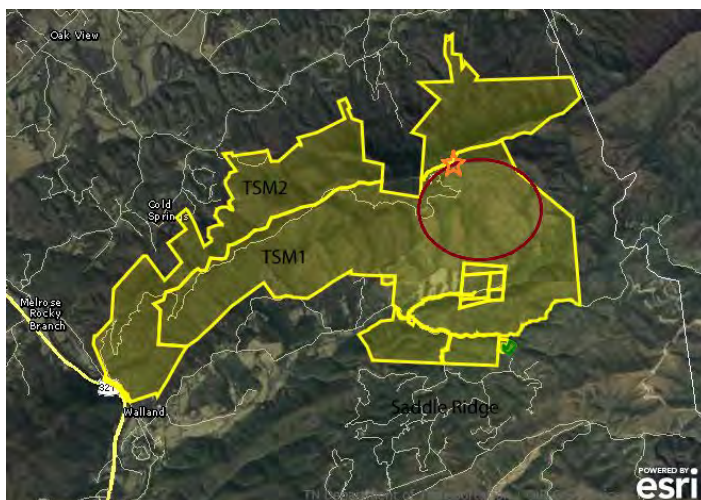
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Send information and photos for future Ridge Ramblers to sodubois@gmail.com.

Send us some feedback.

large tract on East Millers Cove Road. Their request included the incorporation of the old Millstone Gap Lookout Tower, a restaurant, and a modification to the residential area density. Saddle Ridge resident, Bob Spista, brought up questions about the change in site layout for residential areas and concerns about the visual impact on the mountain which were addressed by Matt Smith, Land Manager and Development Project Manager on the Blackberry Farm Design team.

In a followup interview with Matt Smith, Sue DuBois learned more about their timeline, features and plans for the development. The main entrance into Three Sisters will be off Loop Road. The first residents are expected in Spring 2018. The development will include a restored fire tower with a nearby restaurant for residents, a nature center, and hiking trails. The site plan is approved for 175 residences but according to Matt, it will more likely be less than 90. Most of the heavy construction work is complete with the roads built and utilities in.



Map of Three Sisters Development on Chilhowee Mountain. A total of 2800 acres have been placed in conservation easements with the North American Land Trust, the West Side (TSM1) in 2011 and North Side (TSM2) in 2009. They will be restoring the fire lookout tower (orange star). The red circle represents the main area being developed.

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