MARCH/APRIL 2024



photo credit Lily Galvin

In this newsletter you can expect:

HOT TOPICS from the board

Updates from the Trail and the Social Committee

Details for the APRIL 19 FIREPIT FRIDAY!

USEFUL LINKS:

- <u>Update your open</u> <u>neighbor directory</u> <u>information</u>.
- View the opt-in <u>neighbor</u> <u>directory</u>.
- <u>S.O. webpage</u> to view board minutes, etc.

Newsletter It's SPRING!



Dear Neighbors:

Thank you for the positive feedback on our updated newsletter format! Also, please feel free to provide any new suggestions to my email address below! I would love to add more features to enhance this resource for all.

If you have something special you would like to share for an upcoming issue, feel free to reach out. If your contribution is deemed appropriate for the neighborhood, it will be included.

We still use the same <u>GOOGLE FORM</u> collection for announcements. Please submit by the 15th of each month to be included in the next edition. Editions could still be monthly when there is enough timely content, but these last two months have been pretty relaxed on the news front. Things always get busier when the weather is warmer though!

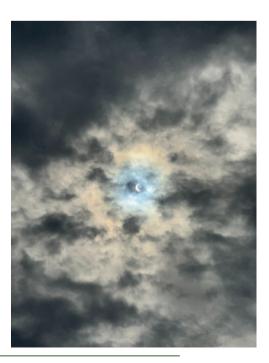
We are still seeking photos from the neighborhood to include in each edition! Please send your best pics to me at amandagalvinl@gmail.com or text 919-530-9669 to add them to my image pool.

I hope to see many of you at the month's firepit on Friday! Read on for more details!

-Amanda Galvin

Did you catch the eclipse? The clouds certainly added some extra drama to viewing the event!

Photo from our neighborhood by Evie Edwards.



HOT TOPIC from the Board...

INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE UDPATE At the September 2023 Annual HOA meeting, a suggestion was made for the Board to create an Investment Advisory Committee (IAC).

Since the annual meeting, the following has been accomplished:

1) The IAC was created from HOA member volunteers who stepped forward: Brad Allen, Don Hallowes and Sam Cooke (HOA Board Treasurer).

2) The IAC created, the HOA's attorney reviewed and the Board approved, a policy document to guide the capital preservation principles for HOA funds to be invested (IAC policy document will be available on the HOA website).

3) Starting in Nov/Dec 2023 Investments were researched, approved by the Board, and made in FDIC Insured CDs and Money Markets at banks, with details available in the Balance Sheet that will be posted on the HOA website.

From the Trails Committee



photo credit Lily Galvin

What have these volunteers been up to?

- Added/replaced a number of steps along the Upper Musterfield trail
- Widened a section of the same trail toward the upper entrance
- Cleaned up the area around the Park (former greenhouse) including spring pruning and leaf removal
- Cut down a leaning honey locust at the entry
- Moved one of the boulders back into place
- Landscape contractor mulched the front entry beds

- **Shout out to Charley Remsen** who worked on the front entry by clearing debris from the front swale and removing invasive plants in that same area.



Social Committee Updates



Firepit Fridays!

Our first Firepit Friday in March was a low-key, enjoyable gathering at the Park. Neighbors brought their own drinks and a few contributed some light snacks. There was lively Irish music to acknowledge the St. Patrick's Day weekend and many of us got to meet some new neighbors as well!

Join us this Friday, April 19 at Ann and Mack McCary's firepit at 22 Hawberry Ct.

Remember, you don't have to RSVP! You don't have to bring anything other than yourself!

Kids are welcome. Bring a campy chair if you wish. Walk, run or drive and drop in any time between **5:30-7:30pm**.

[NOTE: If you drive, please park with ALL FOUR TIRES ON THE ROAD so as to avoid damaging anyone's street-side lawn.]



What's on the calendar?

Monthly Firepit Fridays! Email

amandagalvin1@gmail.com to claim a date! May 17 is already claimed, but these dates are still available for hosts: June 14, July 19, August 23, September 27, November 15.

Warren Wilson College - Walks and Talks

Fiction Book Club - May 15, text TBD, at the home of Kaye and Sam Cooke, If you have any suggestions of books, please email sallyklippel@gmail.

Food Truck (Bear's BBQ, September 14) Interested in being part of another ART WALK event? We will survey interest next month, so be on the lookout for a separate email.

August 10 - Bamboo Cookout and our 1st Cornhole Tournament

October- Chili Cook Off (19th) Trick or Treat! (31st)

November 16- Soup Exchange

December 14- Cookie Exchange