

McCoy Farm & Gardens

NEWSLETTER

Main entrance: 1604 Taft Highway • Front gate: 1715 Anderson Pike • Mailing address: P.O. Box 443, Signal Mountain, TN 37377 • Website: www.mccoypwalden.org

Volume Two: Issue Four

April 2017

Emma Bell Miles Presentation

Emma Bell Miles was a writer, painter and naturalist whose childhood home was on a portion of what is now the McCoy Farm and Gardens.



She is widely recognized as a pioneering ethnographer of Southern Appalachian culture. Her books, which she also illustrated, include *The Spirit of the Mountains*, *Strains from a Dulcimore* and *Our Southern Birds*.

A special presentation by local historian **Kay Baker Gaston**, "Emma Bell Miles at Albion View" will be held at McCoy Farm & Gardens Friday, April 28, 5:30-7:30 PM. Gaston is author of Miles' biography, published by the Walden's Ridge Historical Association in 1985. In conjunction with the presentation is a benefit wine and cheese gathering on the grounds.

Watch for your personal invitation!

March Has Its Surprises

At the first of March the Master Gardeners were hard at work in the gardens as usual and paused for a picnic on the grounds. Then on March 12th, look what happened! Mickey Robbins took this photo of the house in snow.



Master Gardeners Here

You do not have to be a Master Gardener yourself to "play in the dirt" at the McCoy Farm & Gardens. Any and all are welcome to join us on these scheduled days:

- April 7th 9-11 (Friday)
- April 21st 9-11 (Friday)
- April 22nd 9-11 (Saturday)
- April 28th 9-11 (Friday)
- April 29th 9-11 (Saturday)
- May 12th 9-11 (Saturday)
- May 20th 9-11 (Saturday)

We will be cleaning up existing beds, transplanting and planting donated plants, planting an open bed, weeding and watering. Contact Jody Hunter at 645-6268 for details.

Memorial Day Picnic

Hooray! It's that time of year again. We are gearing up for another wonderful community

The Mission of McCoy Farm & Gardens is to restore, enhance and preserve the historic McCoy homeplace so that it may serve the community as an arboretum, natural area, and venue for public and private events.

Memorial Day picnic Monday, May 29, at McCoy Farm & Gardens. Co-chairs Clare Hetzler and Jean Trohanis are working hard to make the celebration fun for everyone. The picnic is open to all residents of the mountain top.

Whether or not you have attended the event before, you know how popular it is. Families can bring their own lunches and blankets to spread on the ground, or you can purchase delicious hamburgers and hot dogs prepared by members of the Lions Club. Pizzas, drinks and desserts will also be for sale.

Memorial Day is a very special opportunity to honor and remember members of our armed forces. At the McCoy Farm & Gardens celebration, we are well aware of the meaning of the day. After the raising and salute to the flag and the national anthem at 11:00 AM, an eagle or other rehabilitated great bird is released to fly once again. Young Sea Cadets, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts take part. There is music throughout the day and plenty of time to meet and visit with neighbors.

A large children's area will provide supervised games and fun for kids of all ages; the historic house and pavilion will be open for touring, and the walking trail invites a stroll.

Look for the next newsletter to learn about the latest upgrades, amenities, and activities set for Memorial Day, Monday, May 29th. Helpers are needed for all aspects of the picnic. **Please contact Clare Hetzler to volunteer.** cash0918@aol.com

Botanical & Wildlife Walks

An **inaugural botanical walk**, inventory and assessment is scheduled for Saturday,

April 22, 2017, at 8:00 AM. Leading will be Dr. Richard K. Clements, Professor of Biology and Environmental Science at Chattanooga State, and whose tours are remarkable for their depth and breadth of information delivered in a clear and memorable style. Join in expert observations that will help with planning for the natural spaces at McCoy Farm & Gardens. Limited to 12 attendees; no one under age 18, please. Registration is required. \$25.00 fee.

Sunday, April 23, 2017, 8:00 AM, **quarterly wildlife walk**, inventory and assessment led by Kevin Calhoon, Assistant Curator of Forests, Tennessee Aquarium. Attendees at previous walks led by Mr. Calhoon have been astounded by his wealth of information and remarkable skills in identification of birds by their calls, habits, shape and plumage. Registration required; limited to twelve persons; \$25.00.

Please send a \$25 check for **each** event made to McCoy Farm & Gardens (501C3) to E. Douglas Newton, 4305 Ivory Ave, Walden, TN 37377-3423. More information [412-915-5996 dougienevt@gmail.com](mailto:dougienevt@gmail.com).

Work Days Reminder

"Volunteer Work Days" are 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on the second Saturday of every month. The next opportunity is **April 8**, then **May 13**. There are lots of jobs of every sort, so come and bring friends. Help get ready for another great Memorial Day Picnic May 29th.

Our Apologies

You may have received a draft copy of the March newsletter with an incorrect date on which Neavon Hatfield passed away. We regret the error. He died February 13, 2017.

Hours, Access & Information

The 1.1 mile long walking and running trail is open during daylight hours, seven days per week. Access the trail at the 1604 Taft Highway entrance, and park in the first gravel lot located outside the inner gate.

The McCoy grounds are open to the public Saturdays and Sundays, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Please enter through the Taft Highway entrance and park in the main gravel lot. A handicapped accessible portable toilet is located at the orchard end of the gravel lot.

OFFICERS:

Mickey Robbins, President
Bob Franklin, Vice President; Corporate Secretary
Gene Adams, Treasurer

DIRECTORS:

Charles Adams
Linda Collins
Joe Davis
Andy Jones
Anne Leonard
Jeremy Logan

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Shannon Handy, Strategic Planning
Jody Hunter, Gardening
Susan Snow, Private Events
Karen Stone, Newsletter

WALDEN OFFICIALS:

Mayor: Bill Trohanis
Aldermen: Lee Davis, Thom Petersen

Support McCoy Farm & Gardens

The McCoy Farm and Gardens is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. All contributions are charitable and tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law, as determined by your tax advisor.

The 38 acre parcel with the Bachman-McCoy home, pavilion, carriage house, barn, blacksmith/workshop, apple house, various other smaller structures, and gardens are leased from the Town of Walden. Volunteers are very important to the organization, in all areas. Your donations are welcome and will be used to improve the structures and gardens.

Please send your check to:

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