

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 One

January 2017

Wildlife Walk Scheduled for January 22nd

Kevin Calhoun, the Tennessee Aquarium's assistant curator of forests, will lead a wildlife walk at McCoy Farm & Gardens on Jan 22, 2017, at 8 AM. Reservations are required and space is limited to 10 participants, so sign up now. Cost is \$35 per person. Please send checks payable to McCoy Farm & Gardens to E. Douglas Newton, 4305 Ivory Avenue, Signal Mt/Walden, TN 37377. dougenewt@gmail.com

The walking tour will begin at the interior parking lot. As before, when 35 species of



Otherwise leafless in shady woods, the crane fly orchid (*tipularia discolor*) takes advantage of winter sunlight after trees have lost their leaves by developing a single winter (hibernal) leaf that produces energy for storage in the root system.

birds were noted, we will report our results. Careful observation reveals a wide variety of plants and animals on the site. An example is the crane fly orchid pictured at left. Finding the shy orchid in bloom in late July or early August will be a challenge worth pursuing.

Sessions with other naturalists are expected to continue on a quarterly basis. Your ideas for future programs are welcome.

Thank you to the volunteers of garden clubs, master gardeners and community who helped plant daffodil bulbs for spring blooms!



Grady, John, William and Whitney Robbins in Nativity scene.

Family Christmas at McCoy

What better place to celebrate a Robbins/Herman Family Gathering and Dinner for 39? A variety of instruments helped everyone sing and focus on the beautiful words of Christmas. In a sweet, special moment, Grady, John, Whitney, Ila, William, Frances and Maggie Robbins with cousin Nico Drumm participated in their first Christmas pageant. Hosts Joe and Genie Robbins anticipate more events held here.



Clockwise: Cathy Robbins, Ruth Ann Martin, Walker Robbins, Jenny Robbins, Joe Robbins, Jr., Elizabeth Robbins, Mary Catherine Robbins, Gene Robbins, Jim Robbins and Ed Darr.

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.

The McCoy Family at the West Side of Their Home



We would like to introduce you to the Tom McCoy family through this photograph taken at their home in about 1947-48 when Sally was a young student at GPS. Left to right with their dog are Sally, Tom, and Martha McCoy. Tom McCoy was a lawyer in Chattanooga at the time. Notice the piping beside Sally. It was part of the irrigation system for the gardens.

Today this west entrance of the house makes the building accessible to everyone through a new ramp furnished by the Town of Walden and installed under the direction of Charles Adams, Director of Building Maintenance. Bit by bit, the main house is being restored and brought up to modern codes of safety and accessibility. Your generous donations help to continue progress in these important endeavors.



Tree Lighting a Success

Santa, happy children, and the Marines collecting Toys for Tots enjoyed treats, carols and the Christmas tree lighting on December 4th at McCoy Farm & Gardens. We look forward to this activity becoming an annual tradition.



Two U.S. Marines stand behind Julia & Carly Stone, Zoe & Theo Edwards, Santa, elf Greydon Sanchez, & John Stone.



Singing carols by candlelight before the tree lighting.

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, unimproved blacksmith shop, 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:

McCoy Farm & Gardens

P.O. Box 443, Signal Mt., TN 37377

www.mccoywalden.org