

# McCoy Farm and Gardens NEWSLETTER

Main entrance: 1604 Taft Highway • Front gate: 1715 Anderson Pike • Mailing address: P.O. Box 443, Signal Mountain, TN 37377 • Website: [www.mccoypark.org](http://www.mccoypark.org)

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## Wine & Cheese Tasting

Beautiful evening, lovely flowers, tasty wine and cheese, wonderful friends, and an interesting program in a delightful setting. What more could anyone ask? More than 100 guests



*Kay Gaston speaking from the porch of the McCoy home.*



*Flower arrangements by Wanda Lacy graced tables.*



*Do you recognize any of these neighbors who attended the Wine and Cheese event? Photos courtesy of Joe Davis.*

enjoyed such a nice experience on April 28th at McCoy Farm and Gardens. Local historian Kay Baker Gaston told the crowd entertaining stories about Emma Bell Miles in the years when she lived, wrote and painted in this area of Walden's Ridge known as Albion View.

Donations made at the party will go to continuing restoration of the house and grounds. Look for another event this fall.

## Memorial Day Picnic Another Big Success

Under the able coordination and direction of Clare Hetzler and Jean Trohanis, the third annual Memorial Day Picnic at McCoy Farm and Gardens lived up to expectations and beyond. The food items cooked and served by members of the Lions Club were outstanding. The children's areas were designed in creative and entertaining ways. The ticket booths were handy, the signage was both attractive and useful, and the entertainment was great.

As folks entered the front gates, many admired the improvements to the grounds. They noticed that front meadows have been cleared to give a view of the house and the



*In a symbolic gesture at the picnic, Ken Dubke releases a red-tailed hawk healed at Happinest Wildlife Rehabilitation and Rescue. Photo by Charlie Stone.*

**The Mission** of McCoy Farm and 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.



crowd gathering for the opening ceremonies. Scouts at the entrance greeted everyone with American flags and useful programs. After the invocation by Father Joseph, presentation of the colors by the Sea Cadets, and pledge of allegiance led by Lt. Col. Eric Merkle, Walden Mayor Bill Trohanis welcomed picnickers, and a rehabilitated hawk soared to freedom.



Bob Franklin served as Master of Ceremonies and did a fine job of directing attention to the silent auction tents - of which there were many - and to the cake walk and treats of ice cream and cotton candy in the pavilion. WRES helped with any first aid or security issues and proudly displayed their equipment. Mardi

Leonard and Leslie Lacy were hits at face painting for kids. The Walden's Ridge Guild helped by decorating and giving informative tours of the main house and its improvements.



Excitement was keen at demonstrations by blacksmith Cullen Pearson at the workshop being rebuilt by the Lions Club. Soon a permanent forge will located at the spot where the Bachman family shaped horseshoes and repaired farm implements.



It was a great day, and we are already looking forward to next year's picnic.

*Bill Wiggins represents the true meaning of Memorial Day. All photos by Charlie Stone.*

## 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.

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

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### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

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Jody Hunter, Gardening  
Susan Snow, Private Events  
Karen Stone, Newsletter

### WALDEN OFFICIALS:

Mayor: Bill Trohanis  
Aldermen: Lee Davis, Thom Petersen

## Support McCoy Farm and Gardens

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.

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:**

**McCoy Farm and Gardens**

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

[www.mccoypwalden.org](http://www.mccoypwalden.org)