

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.mccoywalden.org

Volume Two: Issue Three

March 2017

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 **March 11**, then April 8 and May 13. We welcome you to bring tools - rakes, pruners, saws, shovels, trowels - and friends too! Come help get ready for another great Memorial Day Picnic coming soon.

Honoring Neavon Hatfield

One of the sweetest aspects of the McCoy Farm & Gardens history is the relationship that longtime caretaker Neavon Hatfield had with the McCoy family and the property they all loved. Many are delighted at the idea of the McCoy's and the Hatfields living together side by side in peace - in contrast to the famous feuding families of folklore.

On February 13, 2017, Mr. Hatfield passed away, and a graveside memorial was held at Chattanooga Memorial Park, February 18th. Representing McCoy Farm & Gardens and Walden were Mayor Bill Trohanis, former Mayor Elizabeth Akins, MF&G Board Chairman Mickey Robbins, Karen Stone, Jeremy Logan, Jody Hunter, Kim Fookes, and others.



Behind are Tom, John and Shank Garland with their mother, Sally, between Faye and Raymond Smith, Mr. Hatfield's long-time friends. Photo at graveside by Mickey Robbins.

A reception followed at the McCoy home for the grandsons of Mrs. McCoy. Everyone delighted at hearing their stories of many summers spent ranging the fields, playing in the barn and more. They also told of following their mother, Sally, and grandmother, "Danny," as the women discussed in Latin terminology the profusion in the gardens. We look forward to the Garlands' future visits and more stories.

Some "Befores" & "Afters"

So much progress has been made that we thought you would like to see some "before" and "after" pictures. Please come and join us as we continue to make good things happen.



BEFORE: Driveway, March 18, 2015, showing brush at the beginning of clearing out the lilacs and hydrangea along either side. Note the pink ties marking the lilacs to preserve.



AFTER: Driveway May 31, 2015, as people stream in for the Memorial Day Picnic. Both photos above by Charlie Stone.

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.

All of the photos below show the great progress that has been made since March of 2015 at McCoy Farm & Gardens. Won't you volunteer to help March 11th, 2017?



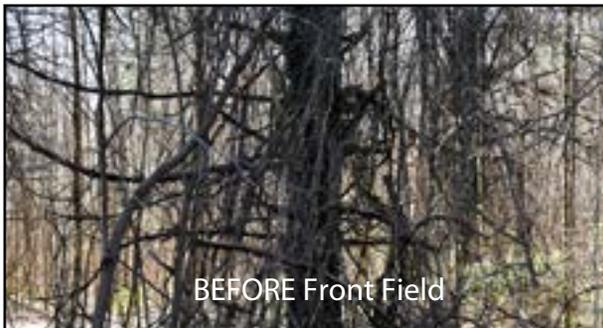
BEFORE: Unpainted Pavilion with broken chimney and bar-b-cue, door that would not close, "Keep Out" warning, and overgrown Horseshoe Garden. Photo Charlie Stone



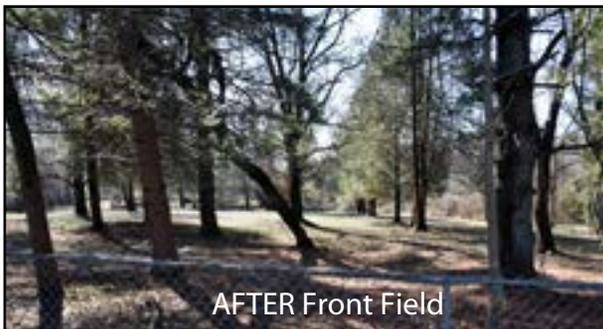
AFTER: Repairs made, Horseshoe Garden in comeback stage, and folks enjoying Pavilion use. Photo Charlie Stone.



AFTER: Pavilion interior renovated and ready for your special event rental. Photo by Charlie Stone.



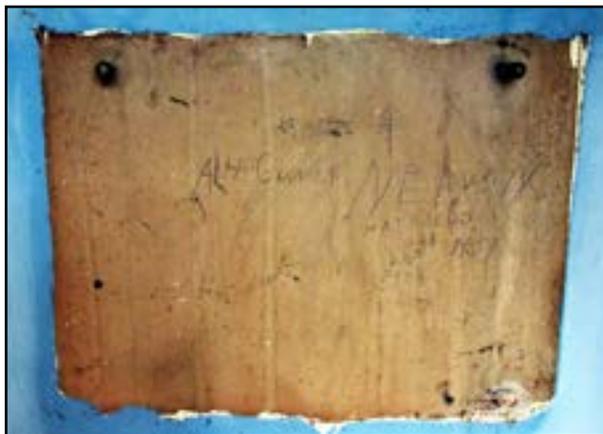
BEFORE Front Field



AFTER Front Field

Photos by Charlie Stone.

New bathrooms are under construction in the Carriage House. When the old toilet tank was removed, this was found written on the wall, "ALH Garnier, Neavon Hatfield, and Art Dyer, 1959." It is such interesting discoveries that inspire the preservation and renewal of McCoy Farm & Gardens. Come and join in.



Names written on the wall in 1959. Photo 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.

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:

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

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