

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

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Help at Memorial Day Picnic

The fifth annual Memorial Day Picnic will be 11-3 on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, 2019. Co-chairs Dana and Paul Stone need your help to fill some still vacant volunteer positions:



Girl Scouts with flags

Entrance Gate Greeter Organizer: The person in charge of the entrance welcomes our guests to McCoy Farm & Gardens. They contact the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to arrange for scouts to hand out American flags to the kids and programs to the adults.

Gate Prize Coordinator: Obtains donated door prizes and organizes tickets/distribution of the gifts at the picnic.

Pizza Coordinator: Secures the pizza vendor and coordinates orders, deliveries and volunteers for pizza distribution at the picnic.

Children's Activities Coordinator: Mountain Top Toys has agreed to provide the games, so we need someone to oversee the area and set out and take down the games.

Grounds Decoration: Place signs and plants around grounds the day before; remove after.

Ticket booth organizer: Organize volunteers to sell tickets the day of the event.

Please text or call Dana Stone 423-280-0511 emaildanastone@gmail.com or Paul Stone 423-280-0803 emailpaulstone@gmail.com We are counting on you to join in and help host the best Memorial Day picnic yet!

Application to National Register of Historic Places

Graduate students Alexandra Hunt, Rachel Shannon, and Hana Karrar at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga are helping to gather information for nomination of McCoy Farm & Gardens to the National Register of Historic Places. They are working hard on a Historical Structures Report and other important items.



Salute to Master Gardeners

Tom Stebbins, UT/TSU Agriculture Extension Agent for Hamilton County, writes, "Master Gardener volunteers reported 591 volunteer hours in the past 2 years at the McCoy Farm & Gardens. That's a value of \$15,000 (based on National Independent Sector Research Group values)...I hope our cooperation continues to flourish."

Congratulations and sincere thanks to the gardens team led by Jody Hunter, Hilda Horton, and Linda Andrews in 2017-2018, and to current leaders of the Master Gardeners, Sallie Ford, Kit Hanley and Marty Roberts.

Archives Established

From the beginning, there has been an uneasy feeling that relevant and important things about McCoy Farm & Gardens might easily be lost. The potential for loss increases

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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.

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as the structures, their contents, the grounds, and more evolve in the future.

What is involved in renovation? Are we maintaining authenticity? Are we clinging to things that should be removed? Are we destroying things that should be saved? What is valuable? To whom? For what purpose?

Your Board and the developers of a Master Plan must take these issues into careful consideration. They are researching all available resources and taking care that relevant books, photographs and papers are preserved by scanning before the originals are stored in an effective archival manner. If you have material that you feel is worthy of preserving, please contact karenstone@waldenhouse.com

Have You Ever Heard of Scratchmore Apples?

Scratchmore seems to have been the casual and amusing name Senator Bachman selected for his farm and orchard when he was raising apples. Perhaps he was following the custom of the many Walden's Ridge residents who named their homes after qualities – good or bad – of their summer places.

Stephen Mazza, Dean of the University of Kansas Law School, recently donated the apple barrel stencil shown in the accompanying photo. A native of Huntsville, Alabama, he has a historic home in Beersheba Springs, TN. He purchased the stencil from a traveling vendor near Monteagle Assembly. The seller said that he had gone to see Mrs. McCoy at her home, and she had sold it to him – possibly because she and other family members



did not care for the name "Scratchmore" for their homeplace.

When Mazza talked with Susan Snow about the find, he offered to restore it to McCoy Farm & Gardens. We were

thrilled to accept it, and you can see it hanging on the wall in the kitchen.

Annual Fund Thank You

Your Board of Directors extends a hearty THANK YOU for your financial support in 2018. A greater number of individuals gave a greater amount than in preceding years, and gifts equaled revenue from events. You are certainly helping "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."

Easy Way to Contribute

Shop at www.smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0737667
AmazonSmile will donate a portion of your purchase price to McCoy Farm & Gardens.

Upcoming Events

- April 27– Spring Bird Walk 8:00 AM
Register collins105@comcast.net
- Any Friday – Volunteer to work on the grounds. Contact andyjones@gmail.com

To schedule your own special event go to www.mccoypwalden.org

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 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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Support McCoy Farm & Gardens

McCoy Farm & Gardens is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. All contributions are charitable and tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

The 33 acre parcel, with the Bachman-McCoy home, pavilion, carriage house, barn, blacksmith workshop, apple house, various other structures and gardens, is 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.mccoypwalden.org

Shop at [smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0737667](http://www.smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0737667) and AmazonSmile donates to McCoy Farm & Gardens