

# McCoy Farm & Gardens NEWSLETTER

Main entrance: 1604 Taft Highway • Front gate: 1715 Anderson Pike • Mail: P.O. Box 443, Signal Mountain, TN 37377 • 423-598-1658 • [www.mccoypwalden.org](http://www.mccoypwalden.org)

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## Apple Tree Planting

Participate in planting new trees in the McCoy Farm & Gardens apple orchard right after Thanksgiving. You can volunteer to take part in the actual installation or come and watch.

An Orchard Committee began rehabilitation with a three-year pruning schedule. They completed phase one in February 2022 and prepared the ground for fall planting. Stage two of the pruning regimen will resume in late winter.

Using some handwritten notes recorded by Neavon Hatfield who cared for Mrs. McCoy's orchard, and *Reminiscence on an Apple*, a 1956 story by Signal Mountain apple expert, Fred Colby, the committee chose six old-fashioned heritage varieties of apples to replace trees that have been lost in the last five or six years. To learn more about planting and pruning or to volunteer contact [newsletter@mccoypwalden.org](mailto:newsletter@mccoypwalden.org)

## Thank You Volunteer Party

We treasure our many volunteers and want to express our appreciation to you on Sunday, November 20 from 2-4 PM in the house. Please join us if you are a volunteer, and invite any of your friends who have volunteered to attend. We are very thankful for your faithful service.

## Barn Warming

On October 9, a beautiful sunny Sunday, as many as 100 friends gathered to celebrate the resurrection of the Bachman-McCoy barn with a dedication ceremony and picnic. Honored and much appreciated were barn expert Slim and his wife Nancy Williams.

Slim names all of the barns he reconstructs and named this one *Ms. Elizabeth*, in recognition of former mayor, Elizabeth Akins, without whom the Town of Walden would not have McCoy Farm & Gardens (and the barn) today.

A documentary video about the barn was created by Sallie Ford with help from her son, David Goodman. He edited and added



*Susan Jensen, Anne Leonard, Gene Adams, Annette Wildman, and Mary Catherine O'Kelley not only prepared the shrimp boil, but also set up the picnic and served the guests.*

contrasting historic photos and created the opening and closing to supplement Sallie's work. To see the video, use the QR code or go to <https://youtu.be/-yD4SU2PCbM>.



*Nancy, Elizabeth and Slim with the barn dedication plaque.*

**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.



*Enjoying the Barn Warming picnic*

## Electric Lines Underground

Eliminating the unsightly power poles and overhead wires that criss-cross McCoy Farm & Gardens property has been a long-term goal. Aesthetics are not the only consideration. Putting electric lines underground eliminates power outages caused by winds, ice, and falling limbs. This project was initiated by Charles



*Left, two unsightly old poles by the barn.*

*Below, volunteer David Reed and Earl Hereford fill in the ditch over newly buried lines.*



Adams in 2020. Earl Hereford has carried it forward with the help of Sam Stephens. Once the poles are eliminated, will we even remember how distracting and ugly they were?

## Welcome Structure Progress

The beautiful welcome structure has been erected using a clever pulley system and the ingenuity of Andy Jones and Terry Knox.



*Above, Andy Jones & Terry Knox. Left, Carolyn Jones & Terry Knox*



*Rafters were raised and placed using a pulley system.*

**Volunteer Appreciation Party  
Sunday, November 20, 2-4 PM  
in the house. YOU are invited.**

## Hours, Access & Information

The 1.1 mile long walking and running trail is open during daylight hours, seven days per week. Access the trail by the 1604 Taft Highway entrance and park in the trail parking spaces or the gravel lot. Dog waste pickup bags are at the trailhead and by the Anderson entrance.

**We encourage our MFG visitors to practice healthy COVID measures at all times.**

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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 38 acre parcel contains the Bachman-McCoy home, pavilion, carriage house, barn, blacksmith workshop, apple house, various other structures, and gardens. Volunteers are very important to MFG 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 Mtn., TN 37377  
423-598-1658

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

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