

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

Volume Seven: Issue Four

April 2022

Bluebird Trail Announced

McCoy Farm & Gardens has been designated a Bluebird Trail by the North American Bluebird Society, thanks to guidance by Alison Hoffmann and Don Hazel, President of the Tennessee Bluebird Society. They placed nine bluebird boxes on the trail, five a gift from the Tri-State Bluebird Society and four a gift from Tom Boone, who makes bluebird boxes.

During nesting season from March through August, members from the Tri-State Bluebird Society will check the boxes once a week and keep data on what they observe. This data will be compiled at the end of the season and sent to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. We'll report as the season progresses. Stay tuned!



Alison Hoffmann and Linda Collins inspect a bluebird house.

Memorial Day Picnic May 30

Honor our armed forces by celebrating Memorial Day once again at McCoy Farm & Gardens. The community picnic will be 11:00-4:00 Monday, May 30, under direction of the Walden's Ridge Guild. Contact Anne Leonard 423-838-4638 to help with the picnic.

Barn Clean Out Underway

The Barn is full of fascinating things. As we begin to clear clutter, the question is: "Trash?" or "Treasure?" What shall we save to display in the barn so visitors can learn about items used by the Bachmans or McCoys in the past? Who can interpret the history of these things?

According to the Master Plan, "Sitting due west of the main house, the barn establishes the farm identity of the property and offers an architectural façade which is popular with photographers. While the structural integrity of the building should be further studied, its location and size would be ideal for day-to-day use for educational purposes and storage. The barn should be given high priority in a schedule of planned rehabilitation."

Now the Barn IS high priority. Come and help at the barn, Saturday, April 2, 9AM-noon.



BEFORE
Cleanout



DURING
Cleanout
Earl Hereford
and Terry Knox

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.

Weed Wrangle Volunteers

Thanks to these folks who wrangled weeds on March 5 and joined the ranks of **Valued Volunteers** at McCoy Farm & Gardens.



Left to right are: Anne and Elizabeth Hamilton, Caroline Woerner, Ryan Hamilton, Robert Newsom, Sallie Ford, Marguerite Batkin (in back), Larry Mick, Andrew Anderson and his son, Bo Watson, and Tara Dunne



Dalton Burks and Karen Stone view the dove (inset) carved into a rock

by famous artist/writer Emma Bell (Miles) whose childhood homesite is now part of McCoy Farm & Gardens. Burks interviewed Stone for a history project about Miles for UTC. This project is unrelated to the MFG oral-history effort, and it is a coincidence that the projects are conducted simultaneously.

Oral History Opportunity

An exciting project is underway to capture anecdotes and memories of folks who have ties to either the McCoy family personally, or to the property we now call McCoy Farm & Gardens. Several friends are telling their stories to members of the Oral History Committee while the conversations are recorded by Zane Davis, a senior history major at UTC under direction of Professor Carolyn Runyan, Director of Special Collections.

If you have a memory you can share, please let us know. The interview calendar is open through April 22.



Joy and David Plank and Elizabeth Akins talk together while Zane Davis records their memories for posterity.



Priscilla Clayton tells Melissa Nimon her recollections of riding horses with Martha McCoy.

Help Clear the Barn

Take part in saving history
Come and help clean out the Barn
Saturday, April 2, starting at 9:00 AM
(Bring your gloves, water, and snacks)

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mickey Robbins, President
Joe Davis, Vice President
Larson Mick, Secretary
Leanna Jones, Treasurer
Linda Collins, Programs
Earl Hereford, Projects
Andy Jones, Grounds
Anne Leonard, House
Susan Snow
Karen Stone, Volunteers

WALDEN OFFICIALS:

Mayor: Lee Davis
Aldermen: Lizzy Schmidt
Sarah McKenzie
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Melissa Nimon 598-1658
melissa@mccoywalden.org
EVENT DIRECTOR
Cynthia Pennington 619-8959
cynthia@mccoywalden.org
NEWSLETTER [Karen Stone](#)

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.mccoywalden.org

Shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0737667

AmazonSmile donates to McCoy Farm & Gardens