

# The Mountain Breeze

Four Seasons at Charlottesville  
Community Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 6

Nov/Dec 2014

## Holiday Edition!



**Happy Thanksgiving**  
Thursday,  
November 27



**Happy Hanukkah**  
Begins evening of  
Tuesday, December 16; ends  
Wednesday, December 24



**Merry Christmas**  
Thursday,  
December 25



**Happy Kwanzaa**  
Begins Friday,  
December 26;  
ends Thursday, January 1

## ~ Veterans Day Program at the Clubhouse ~

November 11, Veterans Day, brought a special celebration to the Four Seasons Clubhouse. Over 80 Four Seasons residents attended.



They were greeted by several displays on loan from the Vietnam War Foundation museum in Ruckersville, including an Army truck posted on the ellipse in front of the Clubhouse, and four uniformed "soldiers" at the entrance to the Ballroom.



Next came a "Salute to Veterans", which included the service anthems of the various military ser-



VICES, during which the vets

stood who had served in each. We have a large number of vets resident here, and it was great to have a chance to honor them in this way.



An elegant dinner was catered by the Bavarian Chef, with chef Jerome Thalwitz doing the honors at the carving station.

Following dinner, **Jerry Weber** served as master of ceremonies and **Reverend Lil Russell-Nicolai** provided the invocation.



A highlight of the evening was

a slide-show salute to all Four Seasons veterans, created by **Lucille Smith** using photos from resident family archives.

Following the slideshow, our local poet, **Hazel Sykes**, presented two original poems honoring our veterans. (Another of her extraordinary poems is shown on the next page.)



The evening closed with the singing of "God Bless America", led by **Sue Campbell**, who also provided a short history of this interesting song.

Many thanks to **Jerry Weber** for his hard work in organizing this program, to **Lucille Smith** for putting together the slide-

show, and to all the other residents who contributed to making this a very successful Veterans Day program. Also we appreciate the contribu-

tions of the Vietnam War Foundation in providing the static displays.



# Letter to Our Veterans

*Dear Veterans,*

*If I could speak, I would say out loud,  
"Thank you, My Heroes, for making me proud."  
You stood at attention with your chest held so high,  
Saluting me proudly as I embraced the sky.*

*I felt you handle me with tender loving care.  
Whenever I was in harm's way, you were always there.  
You never let me rip or even touch the ground.  
And you pulled the rope gently to raise me up and down.*

*When you were in fierce combat, you skillfully fought,  
Using all the tactics and defenses you were taught.  
I saw your long, hard battle---you put up a good fight;  
Protecting me, our country, and what we know is right.*

*It filled me with sadness, but with the utmost pride,  
When you draped me on the casket of a friend who died.  
Then gave me to his mother in that special fold,  
Where she keeps me on her mantle, so I've been told.*

*Thanks for your loyalty and commitment so true.  
Thanks for giving me respect and the honor I'm due.  
When it comes to heroes, you can't find any better.  
That's why I took the time to write you this letter.*

*Love,  
Old Glory*

*Written By Hazel L. Sykes*

## ~ Community News ~

### Congratulations to Our New HOA Officers and Board Members

President: **Doug Miller**      Secretary: **John Normand**  
Vice-president and Treasurer: **Jim Wilson**  
Members: **Dave Katz, Mary Ann Mongillo**

### HOA Outlook

In the summer of 2011, our HOA went from control by the builder, K Hovnanian, to resident control. We now have the fourth Board of Directors seated since the change in control. What a difference three years makes!

The budget for 2015 was developed by MSC based on actual costs of previous years and in keeping with policy direction from the Board and Committee recommendations. Our Budget and Finance Committee shepherded the budget through Committee review and resident sessions and then presented a proposed budget to the HOA Board. The Board adopted the budget as proposed at our last meeting.

When I read that paragraph, it might seem a bit boring. That is a wrong take. It really is blissful. Our community is in a good place right now. Good news is routine.

We should take a moment to reflect on what makes our community such a great place to live. A huge part of the ongoing success is the time and effort contributed by our neighbors in volunteer roles, both formally through Committees and informally as groups and individuals. Also, MSC's support of Four Seasons has been excellent, including our clubhouse staff.

Thank you all! In my view, the outlook for the year ahead of us is sunny.

— *Doug Miller*

### GCC Honors Ron Heinz

On September 24, the Friday morning Gentlemen's Coffee Clutch (GCC) honored resident **Ron Heinz**, who was one of the first Four Seasons residents and the founder of the GCC. (Ron and his wife Sherry were moving to a retirement community near Richmond.)

**Larry Baker** presented Ron with a framed copy of Ron's "Resident Club Application" to start the Gentlemen's Coffee Clutch, dated December 10, 2007.



~ *News from the Landscaping & Grounds Committee* ~



The Landscaping & Grounds Committee wishes everyone in the community and their families a **Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy Hanukah!**

**Vibe Weber, Dianne Wilson, Helen Lodgen, Theresa Weissman, Lil Russell-Nicolai, Kim Pasini and Linda Pietrzak**

**Enjoy the beauty of our community in 2015!**

2014 has been a busy and productive year for the Landscaping & Grounds Committee in the Four Seasons Community. New trees, additional shrubs, perennials, bulbs and grass seed have been planted throughout the community.

**Thank You** to all of the residents who have come out and helped dig, plant and water!

**2014**



A river birch tree was planted this fall in the newly graded pocket park on John Rucker Drive.



The wisteria was trimmed back from the gazebo in the pocket park



Plants and new bushes were added throughout the community!

**2015**



500 tulip bulbs have been planted to bloom next spring!

A representative from a local company is going to come and speak on the care of trees & shrubs!



~ Do you know who this is? ~



His name and current picture will be revealed in the next issue of the newsletter!!

### Surprise Your Spouse!

Send us a baby pic of your spouse for our "Guess Who?" monthly feature. We won't let them know. See if they recognize themselves when they read the newsletter!

### Thanks for Your Service

**Tim Sizer** has taken on the task of keeping a current informational slide show going on the TV in the entry foyer in the Clubhouse. Thanks Tim!

**Doug Miller** and **Spencer Crute** have replaced the four large storage batteries in the Four Seasons Entry Tower on Rt. 33, so that our entry lights are now shining brightly again (except during cloudy, rainy spells). Thanks Doug and Spencer!

### Annual 8-Ball Pool Tournament Dec. 8 & 9

The annual Four Seasons pool tournament, held in the billiards room at the Clubhouse, is fast approaching. The sign-up sheet is at the Clubhouse. Come on and join the fun!

### ~ Holiday Events at the Clubhouse ~

Thursday, Dec. 4

#### Decorate the Clubhouse

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Join the ladies from SAG to decorate the Clubhouse for the holidays. Everyone is welcome to come and help.



#### Meet & Eat

6-7:30 pm

Community potluck dinner. Good food and good conversation.

#### A Holiday Sing-Along with

the Four Seasons "Ragged Ramblers" band

7:30-9 pm



Thursday, Dec. 18

#### Holiday dancing and Singing at the Clubhouse.

7-9 pm

Music by DJ Derek Tobler.

Wednesday, Dec. 31

#### New Year's Eve Celebration

9:00 pm—12:30 am

Catered by the Blue Ridge Café. DJ music for dancing.



### Bored? Need a New Activity to Brighten Up Your Winter Season?

Check out the descriptions of all the various club and group activities available at Four Seasons in the "Activities Guide" on the Four Seasons website,

[our4seasons.org](http://our4seasons.org)

~ "Adopt-a-Family" Christmas Program ~



We have adopted a family of six this year. They are the definition of "THE WORKING POOR". Since both parents are working, we will be including them in our gift purchases as well as their 15 year old daughter.

The MSC staff has again offered to accept checks (made checks payable to Four Seasons of Charlottesville – on memo line write Social Committee). For your convenience Janet Tumolo will be collecting either cash or checks. Her contact information is [jtjathome@aol.com](mailto:jtjathome@aol.com) or 434-985-6419. The cut-off date for turning in purchases or cash is December 1, 2014.

Please feel free to contact CJ Besanson at [cjbaxbuc@comcast.net](mailto:cjbaxbuc@comcast.net) or 571-271-1700 for more information or questions.

Thanks in advance for your support.



Photos from Dave Katz

Our resident master photographer **Dave Katz** has been wonderfully supportive of this newsletter by providing many photos to enliven these pages. For this issue, he sent this lovely shot of Lake Rucker in its autumn colors. But then he couldn't resist also rubbing a little salt in the wounds of those of us staying here in the cold while he and wife



Maxine spend Thanksgiving with family in Florida (that's Maxine lounging behind the plant in the foreground. Thanks, Dave!

~ *Special Holiday Recipes from Dianne Wilson* ~

**Merry Berry Salad (a Taste of Home Recipe)**

**Ingredients**

- 1 package (10 ounces) mixed salad greens
- 1 medium red apple, diced
- 1 medium green apple, diced
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/2 cups slivered almonds, toasted

**Dressing**

- 1 cup fresh cranberries
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup thawed apple juice concentrate
- 1 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1 teaspoon grated onion
- 1 cup canola oil

**Directions**

1. In a large bowl, toss the first six ingredients.
2. In a blender, combine the cranberries, sugar vinegar, apple juice concentrate, salt, mustard and onion; cover and process until blended. While processing, gradually add oil in a steady stream.
3. Drizzle desired amount of dressing over salad and toss to coat. Refrigerate any leftover dressing.

Yield 10 servings

Prep/Total Time -20 minutes

This easy sweet-tart dressing makes this salad so yummy!

**Milk Chocolate Peppermint Bark ( a recipe from [allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com))**

**Ingredients**

- 2 (12ounce ) packages milk chocolate chips
- 2 (12 ounce packages white chocolate chips
- 2 teaspoons peppermint extract
- 8 peppermint candy canes, crushed, divided

**Directions**

Line a 12x18 inch jelly roll pan with aluminum foil.

- Melt the milk chocolate in microwave-safe glass or ceramic bowl in 30-second intervals, stirring after each melting, for 1 to 5 minutes (depending on your microwave). Do not overheat or chocolate will scorch. Stir in the peppermint extract. Spread the chocolate evenly in the prepared pan; chill until set about 30 minutes.
- Meanwhile, melt the white chocolate in a microwave-safe glass or ceramic bowl in 30 second intervals, stirring after each melting for 1 to 5 min. Stir in 1/4 cup of the crushed candy canes. Spread the white chocolate mixture evenly over the milk chocolate. Sprinkle the remaining candy cane pieces evenly over the white chocolate layer. Chill until set about 1 hour. Break into small pieces to serve.

Yield 50 servings

Prep/Total Time - 2 hours



~ *Local Spot to Visit* ~



The  
**Garden Barn**  
Holiday  
Decoration  
Workshops

I am Gabrielle and I cordially invite new and repeat attendees to participate in my annual Holiday Decorate/Redecorate workshops. I have been hosting these for eight years and they are lots of fun, affordable and productive. These workshops are for restyling and refreshing your favorite holiday wreaths and centerpieces — taking the old and making it new!

I have discovered that it is more fun to design and decorate in the Holiday spirit — adding glitter, berries, the right style of ribbon, little birds — the sky is the limit. The main focus is to have fun and create a masterpiece that is totally custom to your style. Be assured, I will assist you in your creation!

Work one-on-one with me, or decorate with your favorite friends. Bring your dated and worn favorite holiday decorative, and together we'll create what you really like!

Assortment of bows, picks, berries, birds, candy canes are available. Cost is only for the materials used.

Reserve early; it's "first come, first served."

*Workshop Dates*

*Sunday, Nov. 30—1:00pm*

*Tuesday, Dec. 2—10:00am & 1:00pm*

*Thursday, Dec. 4—10:00am & 1:00pm*

*Friday, Dec. 5—10:00am*

*Thursday, Dec. 10—10:00am*

Each workshop is limited to 4 participants and lasts 2 hours.

The **Garden Barn** will be Holiday-ready November 1st!

Come in and browse and chat for awhile.

The **Garden Barn** is located at 2646 Frays Mill Road. 434-978-7887 or [007liberty@msn.com](mailto:007liberty@msn.com)

~ *Special Holiday Events* ~



The holiday season means a huge outpouring of opportunities for fun and exciting holiday events, far too numerous to list here.

A good source for complete information on holiday events is the Charlottesville-Albemarle Visitors website at

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

Just click on the link above and then click on the "events" button at the website. Pick a week, and you will see a complete listing of holiday events for that week.

Just to whet your appetite, here are a few:

Sunday, Nov. 23, 11am-4pm

**Mistletoe Market**

Boars Head Inn

A holiday market run by the Junior League, with over 60 vendors and lots of fun holiday activities.

Friday, Nov. 28, 5-7pm

**Grand Illumination Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Central Place on the Charlottesville downtown mall  
Lighting the huge holiday tree, caroling.

Sundays, Nov. 23 on, 6-8pm

**Pet Holiday Photo Night**

Charlottesville Fashion Square Mall

Bring your furry friend to have his/her picture taken with Santa.

And at Monticello (details at [www.monticello.org](http://www.monticello.org))

Sunday, Nov. 30, 1-5pm

**Monticello Holiday Open House**

Weekends during December

**Monticello Holiday Wreath Workshops**

Dec. 6-14

**Monticello Gingerbread House Family Workshop**

Dec. 20-30

**Monticello Holiday Evening Tours**

**Four Seasons Artists  
at The Palette in Stanardsville**

Looking for that perfect gift? Check out **The Palette** in Stanardsville, a non-profit arts and crafts gallery now being run by the Art Guild of Greene as an artist cooperative. Four artists from Four Seasons have work on display there: **Sue Stover, Toni Tucker, Dianne Ferrante, and Terry Pratt.**

# Oktoberfest at Four Seasons



Just a few of those who attended the **Oktoberfest** on October 14.  
This event was very successful, with almost 100 residents signed-up.  
Excellent food catered by the **Bavarian Chef**.

## ~ Classified Ads ~

*This section is for residents only and features any thing or service that you might want to sell or give away to other residents. Ads will usually be run for one issue of the newsletter and then removed. If you would like your ad to be run again, please contact the Newsletter Editor.*

**Small Electrical Services.** Call **Harold Robbins**, 434-985-7202.

**Free Notary Service.** One day advance notice will be helpful. Email atrjs4p@virginia.edu or call **Rauzelle Smith** at 434-985-3395.

*Classified Ads Needed!  
Send us your ads!*

### **The Mountain Breeze at Four Seasons Charlottesville**

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by the*

#### **Communications Committee**

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Larry Miller            Vera Reece  
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**Slow Down!**  
The speed limit  
throughout  
Four Seasons is 25  
miles per hour.  
**Please don't speed!**



### **Got a Good Story to Tell Us!**

Send pictures and details to  
[blueridgebreeze@gmail.com](mailto:blueridgebreeze@gmail.com)



Many thanks to those people who have submitted articles for the newsletter. If you do not see your article in this edition, we will try to include it in a later issue!

The Communications Committee reserves the right to edit any article for length or clarity.

**The deadline for the 2015 Jan/Feb issue is  
December 31!**

Send all submissions to

[blueridgebreeze@gmail.com](mailto:blueridgebreeze@gmail.com)

### **Phone Numbers to Remember**

**Club House — 434-990-2012**

**Emergency — 911**

**Greene County Sheriff's Office — 434-985-2222**

**Identity Theft Hotline — 877-438-4338**

**National Do Not Call Registry — 888-382-1222**

**Better Business Bureau of Central Virginia — 804-648-0016**