



# Deerlake Diary

## President’s Message

Phil Davis

### Dates

Friday  
February 16,  
2024  
5:00 PM

**February  
T.G.I.F. Social  
Mardi-Gras  
Themed**

Thursday  
February 22,  
2024  
2:00 PM

**February  
Book Club  
Event**

*“February is the border between winter and spring.” Terri Guillemets*

Hello Neighbors,

As we “leap” into February (a modest salute to the Deerlake Village punster, Rich Schram, retiring editor of the Deerlake Diary), please be reminded that we are so fortunate to live in this beautiful area. I am particularly grateful for the hard work of so many village volunteers on committees and the Board who make the “job” of being your president so much easier for me.

The new 2024 Board has met and taken on some new roles of responsibility as liaisons to the various committees. As required by our governing documents, a financial review of our records must be conducted every 5 years. At this time Tracy Dyer, CPA has been chosen to do the financial review for 2023 at an estimated cost of \$4900. The association previously used his review services in 2018.

In the next few weeks and months, you will be seeing lots of work being done at the clubhouse to help maintain it as one of our primary assets. The roofs of the gazebos will soon be replaced as well as the front doors and several windows of the clubhouse which are to be repaired or replaced. Our appreciation goes out to the hard-working Maintenance Committee for their many efforts in caring for the clubhouse to ensure it is in prime condition for years into the future.

Our Treasurer, Brenda Bryan, has prepared the following financial report. DVCA has \$194,955.61 in various interest accounts as of December 31, 2023. The operating expenses for December were in the amount of \$8,655.11 with operating expenses being \$106,600.40 for the year, which is 108.28% of our 2023 operating budget. We ended the year with \$8,150.40 over budget. There were no expenditures in December in either the Contingency Reserve or the Capital

### Ongoing Clubhouse Activities

Days	Activity	Time
Every Monday	Poker Game	7:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday	Pool Aerobics (Pool Season Only)	10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Every Monday & Wednesday	Winter Movement Class	10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Every Tuesday	Sit & Stitch	6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Every Thursday	Bocce	9:30 AM to 10:30 AM
Every Friday	Mah Jongg	1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
First Monday	Environmental Awareness	9:00 AM to 10:00 AM
First Tuesday	Bible Study	3:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Third Friday	T.G.I.F.	5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Fourth Thursday	Deerlake Book Club	1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

*(President's Message, continued)*

Reserves. For the 2023-year, Contingency Reserve had a balance of \$22,050.25 and the Capital Reserves had a balance of \$45,564.62.

As a reminder, if you wish to receive the occasional emails from me concerning Deerlake Village updates, please forward your email address to me at [mtneer70@gmail.com](mailto:mtneer70@gmail.com). Also, check out the Deerlake Village Face Book page for many informal and helpful communications.

Phil Davis

## Deerlake Committee Updates

### Clubhouse, Bonnie McMahon & Lois Grabowski

A big shout out to all our neighbors who helped take down the holiday decorations. We could not have done it without you. Thanks so much!

### Community Activities, Carol Weinhofer

#### **Community Activity: Book Club, Chris McKowen**

Attention Readers, our February book club will be held on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM in the clubhouse. Books will be available in the clubhouse to check out. If you have any questions, please call Chris McKowen.

#### **Community Activity: Environmental Awareness, Joellen Risacher - Savvy, Smart Savings**

I gleefully discovered *Consumer Reports* decades ago when I was working in the library. I had inherited a proclivity to finding the best bargains. My parents had to squeeze a tight budget for five kids.

*Consumer Reports* is an independent, non-profit organization, created to work on behalf of consumers to ensure safety, fairness, and quality in the products and services we need in our households and garages. Since 1936, this organization has been our advocate.

I recently bought a new car. I tend to keep my vehicles for 10 years or more, so I needed current information on new technologies. To ensure I would choose one that tested well in reliability, fuel economy, safety, etc., I was easily able to review the attributes and issues for several vehicles of interest. The webpage makes it easy to select several options for comparison.

There is lots of good information about hybrids and EV's to access before you commit to one or the other of these timely options. *CR* also provides a service to ensure that your experience at a dealership is less stressful by helping identify a reasonable cost for your vehicle of choice and avoiding any hidden fees. It is not available in every location, however.

You can also research appliances, home and garden

products, electronics, and so much more. All are tested and compared. You save big bucks by buying the best buys! Energy savings are clearly identified.

You may choose to buy a subscription to *CR*, certainly, or you can get **free** access through your public library ([Homepage - Transylvania County Library](#)). Under "Learn", you must enter your library card number.

While you are browsing this page of resources on the library's website, also note the **free** access to both *Wall Street Journal* and *New York Times*, and financial and medical resources/databases galore. There are innumerable resources to help keep you and your family informed, healthy, and prosperous in this new year. Happy Consuming!

#### **Community Activity: Sit 'n Stitch, Margo Williamson**

Sit and stitchers are meeting in the clubhouse every Tuesday evening, 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. We have realized that stitching skills are not imperative, as we welcome any portable craft (coloring books, darning, sticker art, etc.). So come along and join the fun, no commitment required!

#### **Community Activity: T.G.I.F. Social for January, Margo Williamson**

January's cold weather did not stop 31 residents and guests from attending our Snowflake TGIF. Warm greetings were shared on this first gathering of the new year, and tasty bites and yummy desserts made it a fun event for everyone. Thanks to Jim and Penny Grecni, Christine Schmidt, and Chris and Margo Williamson for hosting, and special thanks to Mary Agnew and John McKowen for helping with kitchen clean up. We are still looking for residents to host for the summer months of May, June, and July.

#### **Community Activity: Upcoming T.G.I.F. Social for February, Margo Williamson**

Joy Percell, Eve Gregg, and Donald Hessemer will be hosting the TGIF this month on the 16<sup>th</sup>. As the New Orleans Mardi Gras falls on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>, they felt that Carnival should be the theme of our gathering. If everyone

would consider wearing something to display the purple, green, and gold colors of "Fat Tuesday", it would add to the decorations. They will also decorate with Mardi Gras colors in the table cloths, beads, and other. They will provide jambalaya and rice for all. Everyone is reminded to bring a favorite appetizer to share and their own beverage, along with \$1/person. "Bon ton rouille" let the good times roll!

**Community Activity: Winter Movement Class, Margo Williamson**

Happy February from Movement Class. Our movement class is going strong and we are enjoying laughter and exercise. There's room for more residents to join us on any Monday or Wednesday, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the ballroom. Weights and bands can be stored in the

ballroom, and no experience is needed. Any questions, contact me (contact info in directory) via text or email.

**Welcome, Bob Agnew**

The Welcome Committee hopes you will join us in welcoming:

*Brett and Kayla (Kacie) Meixel, Mountain section*

Brett and Kacie Meixel are originally from Pennsylvania, but have lived in Charleston, SC for the past nine years. They are excited to be returning to the Appalachian Mountains, where they feel most at home. Brett works for an outdoor camping company and Kacie for a blood cancer nonprofit. They love spending time outdoors, and cannot wait to explore all of Brevard and its beautiful neighboring forests.

---

## Around Our Community

---

**A Brief Introduction to the Next Article's Co-Author – ChatGPT, Joanne Boucher**

The next article has the byline of ChatGPT with a forward comment by Rich Schram. We all know who Rich is but do you know ChatGPT? Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer (ChatGPT) is a product launched in late 2022 with a huge repository of information scraped from public sources up to September of 2022. The creators placed all that information in a Large Language Model (LLM) in a format readily accessible to the Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) engine, ChatGPT.

There are cost-free and subscription-based versions. The free version contains the information from prior to late 2022 AND information that users have trained it. If the trained information is factual, no one has a problem; however, a few dedicated people can convince ChatGPT that 2 plus 2 equals 5. NOTE: After math problems were answered incorrectly, Generative AI engines have coded math rules to prevent wrong calculations.

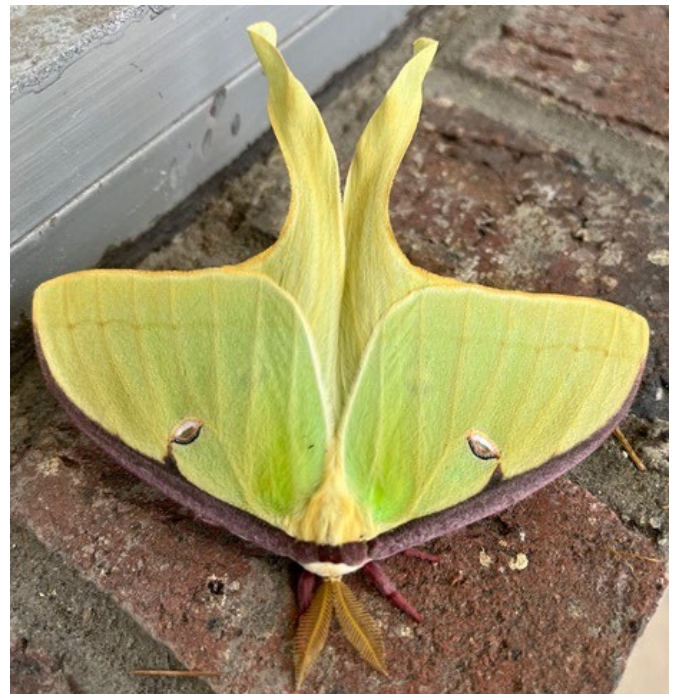
One of my co-workers is creating the hallucination (technical name of trained false information) to return for the question "Who is Taylor Swift?" with the answer of "Kevin Chin's neighbor." This is false because she bought a home – more a mansion - in my colleague's childhood hometown and he lives in another state. She might be known for other reasons than living in Kevin Chin's hometown.

You need to credit ChatGPT any time you use it because ChatGPT commits copyright infringement quite often and you want ChatGPT to be the subject of the lawsuit and not you. Additionally, you want ChatGPT to take credit for

any hallucinations provided and not make you look like you cannot add 2 and 2 together.

**The Luna Moth, Rich Schram and ChatGPT**

**Introduction to the Luna Moth, by Rich:** This is a luna moth photo I took on November 20, 2023, 10:29 AM at the Fitness Factory gym near the Tractor Supply store in Brevard. This moth was one of several perched along the gym's window ledge.



*Photo by Rich Schram*

I simply found ChatGPT's capabilities revealing — and

disturbing — and I thought about sharing this example with residents. My actual comment was “Wow. I asked it to write something and look what it did in seconds!”

### **The Enchanting Dance of the Luna Moth, by ChatGPT:**

In the moonlit nights of North America's deciduous forests, a silent ballet unfolds. The Luna Moth (*Actias luna*), a creature of ethereal beauty, graces the woodland with its presence. This nocturnal seraph, with a wingspan reaching up to 4.5 inches, mesmerizes with lime green wings edged in a delicate fringe. Its signature elongated tails and eyespots on each wing create a haunting, yet enchanting appearance.

The life cycle of the Luna Moth is as fascinating as its appearance. Beginning as an egg, the moth embarks on a transformative journey. The eggs, laid on the underside of leaves, hatch into voracious caterpillars. These larvae, with their green bodies and tiny red spots, feast on the leaves of their host plants – predominantly walnut, hickory, sweet gum, and paper birch trees. As they mature, the caterpillars spin cocoons, encapsulating themselves in a silken shroud.

After about two weeks, the adult Luna Moth emerges, a fully transformed marvel. However, in this final stage of life, spanning merely a week, the moth does not eat. Its mouthparts are vestigial, and its sole purpose is to reproduce. The females release a pheromone to attract males, who, with their larger, feathery antennae, are adept at detecting these signals from great distances.

The distribution of the Luna Moth spans the Eastern United States and Canada, with sightings as far north as Manitoba and as far south as Florida. Their presence signifies the health of the forest ecosystem, acting as a vital cog in the ecological machine.

But life for the Luna Moth is not without peril. Predators such as bats pose a significant threat. The moth's tails are believed to confuse bat echolocation, serving as a survival mechanism. However, not all escape their clutches. Other

threats include birds and parasitic wasps, which lay eggs on the caterpillars.

As for their host plants, the Luna Moth caterpillar is not overly picky but does have its preferences. Walnut and hickory are favorites, providing the necessary nutrients for growth. The relationship between the moth and its host plants is a delicate balance, one that speaks volumes about the interconnectedness of our ecosystem.

In conclusion, the Luna Moth is not just another insect; it is a symbol of the beauty and intricacy of nature. Its life cycle, from the humble egg to the majestic adult, is a journey of transformation and survival. As we delve into the mysteries of these nocturnal dancers, we not only learn about them but also about the delicate balance of the world we share.

### **Around Brevard and Transylvania County**

**Get Notifications:** Bobbi Moore provided this valuable information. You can get Emergency and Non-Emergency text messages, emails, or both. Here is the link for residents to sign up for alerts from the city of Brevard:

<https://www.cityofbrevard.com/1511/Alerts-Notifications>



# Directors and Committee Chairs

## Board of Directors

<b>President,</b> <b>Phil Davis</b> mtneer70@gmail.com	<b>2024</b> 828-877-4555
<b>Vice President,</b> <b>Agnes Tyna</b> avtdvca2025@gmail.com	<b>2025</b> 828-885-2034
<b>Treasurer,</b> <b>Brenda Bryan</b>	<b>2025</b> 828-290-4004
<b>Secretary,</b> <b>Donna Raspa</b> donnandbill.raspa@gmail.com	<b>2026</b> 828-577-1440
<b>Director,</b> <b>Susan Toscani</b> sdtoscani@gmail.com	<b>2024</b> 828-883-8223
<b>Director,</b> <b>Geoff Davis</b> geoffreytdavis@flash.net	<b>2026</b> 713-818-9625
<b>Director,</b> <b>Bobbi Moore</b>	<b>2026</b> 828-577-7652
<b>Eagle Run Liaison,</b> <b>Chuck Baxter</b>	828-384-6026
<b>Quail Run Liaison,</b> <b>Jim Grecni</b>	203-942-9970

## Community Information Contacts

DVCA Website: <https://deerlakevillage.org>

**Website Submissions:**  
jack@jackchristfield.com

**Newsletter / Diary Submissions:**  
DVCA\_Joanne\_Boucher@outlook.com

**Owner / Renter - Contact Updates:**  
A hardcopy update list was included with the annual meeting report that was mailed via USPS to all residents. Updates since that distribution will appear in the February and March issues. A complete directory update will be mailed in the spring, probably in April.

## Committee Chairs

<b>Architectural Review</b> (Existing Home Requests)	Geoff Davis	713-818-9625
<b>Architectural Review</b> (New Home Construction)	Nell McMurty	813-390-2659
<b>Clubhouse</b>	Bonnie	828-291-2329
<b>Reservations</b>	McMahon	
<b>Community Activities</b>	Carol Weinhofer	828-883-2031
<b>Community Relations</b>	Brent Dormann	308-631-2427
<b>Conservation</b>	Jack Christfield	828-577-3426
<b>Easement</b>		
<b>Directory</b>	Robert Overbeck	914-522-5317
<b>Deerlake ID Tags</b>	Bob Agnew	404-702-7845
<b>Emergency Prep.</b>	Bob Williams	828-966-5584
<b>Finance</b>	Brenda Bryan	828-290-4004
<b>Hearings</b>	John Brown	828-712-9832
<b>Lake Management</b>	Jim Furniss	828-884-7280
<b>Landscape Review -</b> <b>Co-Chr</b>	Barbara Osgood-Cox	704-604-1710
<b>Landscape Review -</b> <b>Vendor Relations</b>	Sue Jones	828-877-3326
<b>Maintenance</b>	Brenda Bryan	828-290-4004
<b>Newsletter</b>	Joanne Boucher	315-272-8853
<b>Pool</b>	Penny Grecni	203-460-2431
<b>Purple Flag Notice</b>	Donna Raspa	828-577-1440
<b>TGIF Coordinator</b>	Nancy Davis	828-877-4555
<b>Welcome</b>	Bob Agnew	404-702-7845
<b>White Squirrel Ln</b> <b>Fund</b>	Marcia Schneider	828-329-2953

## Ongoing Activity Contacts

<b>Bible Study</b>	Burt Mullins
<b>Bocce Ball</b>	Lou Shelley
<b>Book Club</b>	Chris McKowen
<b>Environmental Awareness</b>	Joellen Risacher
<b>Mahjongg</b>	Kathy Abbott
<b>Poker</b>	Don Herman
<b>Pool Aerobics; Pool-Keys &amp;</b> <b>Wristbands; Sit 'n Stitch;</b> <b>Winter Movement Class</b>	Margo Williamson