



Deerlake Diary

President's Message

Phil Davis

*"Daffodils that come before the swallow dares and take the winds of March with beauty."
Shakespeare*

Dates

Not Later than Sunday March 10, 2024
Submit Changes to the Residents (Owners / Renters) Directory

Wednesday March 13, 2024 3 PM
Bart Renner Cooperative Education Agriculture Agent – Local Horticulture

Friday March 15, 2024 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
T.G.I.F Clubhouse

Hello Neighbors,

We have had a mild winter and lots of nice days to enjoy our neighborhood and see our neighbors. I've met several of you out strolling along the sidewalks and on the Conservation-Easement paths, all great assets of our Village. Please be reminded to be safe, especially on the wooded trails. If walking alone, please take a cell phone in case of emergency. If available, please walk on the sidewalks and not in the streets, especially early mornings and late afternoons, when the sun is low and in a driver's eyes.

Our Treasurer, Brenda Bryan, has prepared the following financial report confirmed by Gould Killian CPA Group, P.A. After receipt of assessments, DVCA has \$309,805.26 in various interest accounts as of January 31, 2024. The operating expenses for January were in the amount of \$ 45,650.69 which is 36.38% of our 2024 operating budget. (Insurance payments accounted for 85.70% of January's operating expenses.) There was an expenditure of \$7,270 in January from the Contingency Reserve for roof replacements on the Clubhouse and Pool gazebos.

We have some dam good news to share... The NC Dam Safety Office conducted an inspection of our dam late last month and declared it safe and in good condition. Many thanks to the efforts of the Lake Management Committee for overseeing the lake and dam and for conducting their own monthly inspections. Also, Bob Williams and Joanne Boucher of the Emergency Action Plan (EAP)

(Continued on the next page)

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, Friday	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 Thursday	Men's Coffee	8:30 AM to 9:30 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)

Committee recently submitted updates to the State for revisions to our EAP which has also been approved by the State. This task is required to be accomplished annually and Bob has been faithfully heading that committee for several years. Bob has asked to step down and the Board is happy to announce that Joanne has agreed to be the new Chair of that committee. The EAP does need a few additional members. Please consider volunteering for this important committee as your contribution to the community.

Phil Davis

Deerlake Committee Updates

Community Activities, Carol Weinhofer

ATTENTION GARDENERS!

On March 13 at 3:00 PM, we welcome Bart Renner back to our club house. Bart is the local Cooperative Education Agriculture Agent and is a wonderful source of knowledge



regarding horticulture. During the first half of his presentation, he will discuss what flowers, shrubs, and trees flourish best in Western NC regarding our poor soil, treed lots, hilly landscape, and wildlife pillage.

He also will touch on plant diseases and how to combat. In the second half, there will be a question-and-answer

discussion. Here is your chance to bring that nagging question you have to an expert in the field! Hand-outs will be available too! See you there!

***Deerlake Village Cruise, then Booze Private Canoe Trip,
Saturday, June 8, 2024***

Submitted by Barbara Osgood/Cox

The activities committee has arranged with Headwaters Outfitters for a private, guided "Cruise Then Booze" canoe adventure for Deerlake Village Residents on Saturday, June 8. There will be more information to come, but we wanted to get a preliminary idea of how many might be interested in joining this outing. Here are the details:

- A five-mile trip down a very mild stretch of the French Broad River suitable for beginners. (Around 1.5 to 2 hours depending on water levels and conditions.)
- We meet at Oskar Blues Brewery at 4:30 pm where Headwaters will provide a 5-minute shuttle to the Pisgah Forest Boat Access. There the guide will assist us in getting geared up for our paddle. After a brief safety orientation we will be on our way, ending at the Penrose Access between 7:00 and 7:30 pm. Headwaters will provide a 10-minute shuttle back to Oskar Blues Brewery where we can enjoy our beverage of choice and lively conversation.

- Headwaters Outfitters will provide a guide, life jackets, paddles, and boats. Choices of boats are tandem canoes, tandem kayaks, and single kayaks. All the kayaks are sit-on-top kayaks.

- The price for the trip is \$50 per person. Kids are welcome, but the price is the same for all. The price does not include any drinks or food at Oskar Blues or a tip for the guide.

- Neighbors will sign up directly with Headquarters Outfitters. Just tell them you are signing up for the Deerlake Village Neighbors Cruise then Booze trip.

It may be too early for neighbors to be able to make a firm commitment to this trip, but we would like to get an idea of the level of interest so Headwaters will have an idea of how many to expect (and whether the Activities Committee should consider other such trips in the future.)



Please email Barbara Osgood-Cox (osgoodcox@gmail.com) to let us know if you might be interested in this trip or others like it.

Directory, Robert Overbeck

We are planning on printing a new resident directory in late March. If you have any changes, especially email and/or phone numbers, please inform Robert Overbeck (dlakedirectory@gmail.com) or Donna Raspa (donnandbill.raspa@gmail.com) by March 10th. It would be beneficial if you checked your information in the last Directory to be sure it is accurate.

Any **owner who rents their property** must provide Donna Raspa at donnandbill.raspa@gmail.com with the renter's name, phone number, and email. Please submit any changes to dlakedirectory@gmail.com by March 10, 2024.

Community Relations, Brent Dormann

There have been no concerns brought forward to the Community Relations Committee this month.

Emergency Preparedness, Bob Williams

I first volunteered for the Emergency Preparedness Committee in 2020. Now, in 2024, it is time to hand it over to new leadership. Once the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) update was sent to the state, I announced that I would step down from the committee.

Due to health reasons, I am no longer the right person for the job. Thanks for putting up with me these last 4 years. It has been a bit of a bumpy ride, but we got through it.

Through January and February, a great team of myself, Phil Davis, Bobbi Moore, and Joanne Boucher updated, reviewed, and prepared the EAP for submission. We completed that on St Valentine's Day. Hooray that it was accurate and on-time!

On February 23rd, the best part of all is that the State of North Carolina notified Phil Davis that they accepted our revision submission. Now, with my departure, I hand this committee chair to Joanne with the DVCA Board approval, of course.

Newsletter / Diary, Joanne Boucher

Thank you all for the gracious comments about inputting to this wonderful community letter – also affectionately known as The Deerlake Diary (DLD).

All community activities inputs will be in the “Around Our Community” section. Any activity leader or the “knighted participant” may send me updates about participation in any of our activities.

Our residents may be shy about participating until they read a great write-up about the wonderful folks who enjoyed the activity.

Welcome and ID Tags, Bob Agnew

The Welcome Committee hopes you will join us in welcoming:

Steve and Ellen Stewart, Meadows

Steve and Ellen are both retired. Ellen worked in the public sector for several years before transitioning to consulting work. Steve worked as an educator for 34 years, then operated a water tour business in the Pawleys Island area of South Carolina. Ellen enjoys gardening, bird whispering, and fitness. Steve tries to keep up.

Around Our Community

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

This month, we will be changing our format for book club. We are each going to read a biography (a bibliography of our own choice) and, at our gathering, we will share with each other a bit about the person we chose. Our meeting will take place Thursday, March 28 at 1:00.



If you have been interested in joining our group, this is a

great opportunity to join with us in our discussion and to get to know our group. We look forward to meeting you and broadening our horizons. If you have any questions, please contact Chris McKowen. Happy reading.

Community Activity: Environmental Awareness - Collecting Rainwater, Joellen Risacher***Rainwater Collecting and Water Savings
Submitted by Margo Williamson***

We complained about our water bills, which seemed high considering we live in a rainforest, and we kept hearing that the town water supply from Cathey's Creek is barely adequate for the town's growing needs, so we decided on a couple of ways to save on water without cutting back on personal hygiene.

We were wasting lots of water by running our taps waiting for the hot water to kick in. That led to our capturing that water in clean milk jugs to be used for our house plants and other indoor uses where clean, cold water could be used. Having a milk jug sitting by our sinks was not a big hassle and we felt better about not letting all those gallons of water go down the drain.



When we decided to put gardens in almost every usable

space around our small property, it seemed logical to investigate what is involved with using rainwater for this



purpose. The simplest way to collect rainwater from your gutter system is with a rain barrel. You put the barrels beneath your gutter downspouts to collect stormwater and store it for later use. You dispense the water using a spigot that is installed on the barrel's side.

We have 2 eighty-gallon barrels, fed from a single downspout, which both fill to overflowing in a moderate rainstorm. In our case, the excess water is redirected back to the

downspout, or you can send it anywhere on your property. As we water less in the winter, we disconnect the barrels occasionally, which takes just a couple of minutes. By using this system, our water and sewer bills are always below \$70, and the city is not having to use energy and chemicals to treat the water.

Since most of our gardens are below the level of our rain barrels, watering is done though a hose connected to the spigot, using gravity. For the gardens in the front (uphill), watering cans are used, so you can skip the trips to the gym! I am not claiming this to be a solution for everyone. It does involve some low maintenance, but it has been easy enough, and it has helped us save money by becoming less dependent on our municipal water system. There is some self-satisfaction gleaned from using a natural and unchlorinated resource to provide for your homegrown veggies and beautiful flowers.

Community Activity: TGIF Coordinator, Nancy Davis

Mardi Gras was the theme of the February TGIF. Purple, yellow, and green was the color scheme everywhere including the necklaces and outfits the 40 residents were wearing. Thanks to Inez Parsell, Eve Gregg, and Don Hessemer ("Hess") for hosting this fun event and providing delicious Jambalaya for all.



The next TGIF will be on Friday, March 15 from 5-7 p.m. The hosts will be celebrating *St. Patrick's Day* so come dressed in green. Each resident should bring a favorite appetizer or dessert to share with 6-8 others, a beverage of choice, and \$1.00 per person donation. Hosts will be Cheryl Gressler, Ken Johnson, and Carol and Harry Weinhofer. Come join in the fun!

Community Activity: Winter Movement Class, Margo Williamson

I have been asked to add Fridays to our workout classes, so now we will be meeting on every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10-10:45ish in the clubhouse ballroom.

I have added some chair yoga to our low impact aerobic workouts, and welcome anyone who would like to check it out. Attendance is flexible and no equipment is needed. Call or text me if you have any questions.

Editorial Submissions

***I'm Itching Already* by Rich Schram**

If you like insects, science writer Brooke Borel wrote a fantastic book: *Infested: How the Bedbug Infiltrated Our Bedrooms and Took Over the World*. Steel yourself. I will share what I have learned.

Of about 14,000 species that feed on blood of any kind, some 300–400 insect species routinely feed on human blood, with bed bugs ranking high on the cringe scale.

We fear bedbugs because they attack in the night while we sleep, leaving us itching with telltale blood spots on pillowcases and bed sheets, and retreat unseen, sometimes becoming uninvited companions that attach themselves to our bedding, clothing, or suitcases. Their clandestine behavior may make you suspicious of strangers, visits by friends carrying luggage, or travel via ship, plane, bus, or taxi.

You have reason to be wary: Borel's book describes research into bedbugs' role in transmission of diseases such as leprosy, typhus, tuberculosis (TB), typhoid fever, plague, polio, malaria, elephantiasis, hepatitis B, and human immunodeficiency viruses (HIV). Also mentioned was cat scratch fever, a malady possible in North Carolina. But you may relax slightly; the bed bug link was not conclusive for all afflictions.

I suspect some offending insects sign non-compete clauses. Mosquitoes enjoy the rights to malaria, West Nile virus, and other fevers. Fleas hold the typhus territory, and various biting flies dispense sleeping sickness and river blindness. Deer ticks reign over Lyme disease.

We should not ridicule everyone suffering from bed bug paranoia. Sometimes, allergic responses go well beyond

simple rashes and itching. Unfortunates who suffer hundreds of bites per day as bed bug blood donors can develop anemia, to say nothing of psychological fear. What is that expression “Once bitten, twice shy”? Think loss of sleep, stress, unexpected financial costs for anti-anxiety meds and exterminators, and in rare cases, PTSD. It is not for nothing that paranoid schizophrenics see bugs crawling on their bodies.

Bed bugs feed from once every few days to once per week for about eight minutes duration, then scuttle back to their bedframe or mattress-fringe hiding place. Engorged with blood, they assume the size and shape of a lentil, or as one of the author’s entomologist acquaintances described them, “a drop of blood with legs.” (Have you stopped reading yet?) Bed bugs surreptitiously nip through your skin where they sense blood flow and set to their phlebotomistic task with a mouth only eight micrometers wide, about the size of a strand of silk. That is one-half a micrometer wider than a red blood cell.

Control and study of bed bugs is not simple. Because they are not vectors for agricultural calamities or health epidemics, little federal research money is available. In some research programs, bed bug broods often sup directly from the researchers’ veins. Less desperate investigators set up artificial feeders, some with heated and recirculating non-human blood. (Personally, I am rethinking my relationship with ketchup.)



The pesticide Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), invented in 1934 in Switzerland, enjoyed use during WWII and almost completely purged the worlds’ bed bugs by the

early 1950s. Biologist Rachel Carson warned the world of DDT’s over-enthusiastic application when she published *Silent Spring* in 1962. DDT’s use was banned in the U.S. in 1979. However, even during its use, some bed bugs grew resistant to DDT. Although once thought vanquished, the little beasties began a resurgence by the 1980s, and it has been a sprayer vs. mandible fight ever since.

Based upon her research, the author also offered an informative epilogue, *Brooke’s Bed Bug Guide*. Some examples of her advice:

- Would she hire a professional pest controller? Not immediately. Treatment is costly; bugs are resistant to many products; some do not work. She suggests verifying you have bedbugs before spending hundreds of dollars.
- If you hire a pest controller, what chemicals would she recommend? Use a pyrethroid-neonicotinoid combination. Skip insect growth regulators; the allowed dosages are too low to make a difference.
- Her thoughts about all-natural powders such as diatomaceous earth: She is not a fan. Not good for one’s lungs.
- Regarding the value of all-natural sprays or “contact killers”? Save your money. You might as well hit the bugs with a hammer.
- What about heat treatments? Possibly OK for a single-family home if truly infested and your furniture and clothing can be placed in a heat trailer.

Borel had more suggestions and other appendices in which she listed famous bed bug songs (for example, Papa Joe Grappa’s “Bed Bug Boogie”), bed bugs in literature (even Goethe wrote a poem), and she included catchy bed bug limericks such as:

*There was once a C lectularius
Whose odor was very nefarious
He smelled like old fruit
So foul and acute
So nasty, it was quite hilarious*

Finally, should you wonder, the NC library system has 7 copies of her book available!

Lost and Found

There are two windbreakers, one lady’s jacket, and a black vest in the Clubhouse closet. There is also a jello mold container on the shelf in the closet. If not claimed by March 15th, these items will be donated to The Sharing House.

Directors and Committee Chairs

Board of Directors

President, Phil Davis mtneer70@gmail.com	2024 828-877-4555
Vice President, Agnes Tyna avtdvca2025@gmail.com	2025 828-885-2034
Treasurer, Brenda Bryan	2025 828-290-4004
Secretary, Donna Raspa donnandbill.raspa@gmail.com	2026 828-577-1440
Director, Susan Toscani sdtoscani@gmail.com	2024 828-883-8223
Director, Geoff Davis geoffreytdavis@flash.net	2026 713-818-9625
Director, Bobbi Moore	2026 828-577-7652
Eagle Run Liaison, Chuck Baxter	828-384-6026
Quail Run Liaison, Jim Greeni	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:
We are planning on printing a new resident directory in late March. A complete directory update will be mailed in the spring, probably in April. Please submit any changes to dlakedirectory@gmail.com **before March 10th.**

Committee Chairs

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

Ongoing Activity Contacts

Bible Study	Burt Mullins
Bocce Ball	Lou Shelley
Book Club	Chris McKowen
Environmental Awareness	Joellen Risacher
Mahjongg	Kathy Abbott
Men's Coffee	Dan Tyna
Poker	Don Herman
Pool Aerobics; Pool-Keys & Wristbands; Sit 'n Stitch; Winter Movement Class	Margo Williamson
Purple Flag Notice	Donna Raspa
TGIF Coordinator	Nancy Davis