

**PINE MOUNTAIN  
ESTATES**

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Connelly Springs, NC

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January 2017

Pine Mountain Quarterly Newsletter

Pine Mountain Board of  
Directors:

President: Vacant  
Vice President: Max Poteet  
2nd VP: Ed Harman  
Secretary: Patti Cline  
Treasurer: Glenn Cline

Other Board Members:

Bennie Stinson  
Mike Bivens  
Bobby Davis  
Jonny Burch  
Ray Hollowell  
David Newman  
Glen Michael  
John Marlow

To review all Committees,  
their duties and their  
members, go to:  
[PineMountainNC.com/  
POA-members.html](http://PineMountainNC.com/POA-members.html)

**Pine Mountain  
Neighborhood Watch  
Facebook Group:**

Stay informed! Folks on  
Pine Mountain are sharing  
important information,  
photos, local events,  
outings, keeping neighbors  
informed and much more.

Join Pine Mountain's  
Private Facebook page!!

You can either:  
**PineMountainNC.com**  
Under the POA Office  
tab—right column.  
Or  
Email your request to:  
[WMerical@msn.com](mailto:WMerical@msn.com)

Gary Thorpe will be organ-  
izing **Wards Gap Road  
clean-up in March**...need  
volunteers. Info will be  
posted on Facebook and  
the Front Gate Bulletin  
Board.

**Welcome!**

Welcome to all our new  
individuals/families on the  
Mountain!!!

What does a Snowman  
wear on his head?

An Ice Cap

**From the Editor...**

By Wanda Merical

November proved to be more exciting than what anyone ever expected!

For a month—we all endured the South Mountain State Park fire that started on 6 November. It took 395 personnel, 35 engines, 10 dozers to contain, control and eventually put out the 6,433 acre fire.

I give "Thanks!" and a "hats off" to everyone that kept us informed, kept a watchful eye over us and donated to the brave men and women that kept us safe.

Now that we can all breathe a bit easier, it's time to take a serious look at what's happened — what did we do right and what can be changed for the better.

This is not just an individual situation, this is a community situation. We, as a collective, need to realize how we can protect our lives, our homes and our community.

Your participation, no matter how big or how small, is essential for our own safety.

I dedicate this newsletter to tips we can all do to protect the property we love.

**Tips to Protect your Home:**

1. Clear combustible debris from around your home. This includes dry grass, brush, stacks of firewood and debris. Defensible space should be 30 feet from the house.
2. Secure your home's eaves and vent openings. Make sure they are properly screened to prevent embers from flying in.
3. Protect your roof. It's said that our roof is the most vulnerable to our homes. Keep your gutters clean.
4. Plan your home to be fire-resistant from the ground up.

**How to prepare for a wildfire:** The National Interagency Fire Center suggests: (A copy of this full document will be connected to the PineMountainNC.com website—under Firewise.)

1. Know your risks.
2. Review your homeowners or renters insurance policy.
3. Stay informed.
4. Know your evacuation routes, plan your transportation and have a place to stay.
5. Know how to communicate with family & friends about your safety.

**Firewise:** We met **Eric Muecke**, Urban Forestry Specialist, who spoke about "**Firewise**" a program co-sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, the US Dept of Interior and the National Association of State Foresters during our last board meeting. Eric's presentation can be seen on Facebook.

Firewise is designed to save lives and property from wildfire, Firewise Communities program teaches neighbors to work together and take action now to prevent losses in the future.

Additional information can be found: 1) [www.Firewise.org](http://www.Firewise.org), 2) Handouts available at the POA Office, the Pine Mountain Facebook Group and [www.PineMountainNC.com](http://www.PineMountainNC.com) website.

**Golf Course Greetings!**

Believe it or not, even with the blowing smoke from the South Mountain State Park fire, we had plenty of golfers—every day.

GREAT news: A HUGE "Thank you" goes out to David Lankford and Hal Abernathy for all their hard work, their time and funds spearheading some badly needed repairs all over the Golf Course. You may have noticed some of the changes driving through...stump removal, straw, new flower beds, etc. To donate a tree to enhance the golf course, see Greg Clontz.

2016 has been a great year!! We have grown in Golf Membership and players with 10 new golfers and our new golf enthusiast residents on Pine Mountain. We've had 8 "Hole in 1" Winners: Miss Morgan Byles, Jake Jarrett, Tommy Yoakum, Greg Auton, Rene Coto, David Lankford, Don Loftis and Aaron Perlman.

Pine Mountain Golf has 2 major golfing tournaments each year: The "Halloween Open" and the Marines "Toys for Tots" Program. Both were extremely successful. We had approximately 33 sponsors with the Halloween Open and we collected over 100 toys and raised \$1,240 cash for Burke County's children in need.

Join us in making 2017 as great, if not greater!! Pine Mountain Golf Course is the only golf course in the local area that's Open All Year!

[Join our Facebook page and/or our Newsletter for updates.](#)

## POA Office News...

By Patti Cline

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe another year has come and gone. The winter weather is here. Be prepared for snow and icy roads. Purchase your salt and sand for your driveway and steps before the weather hits. If you need help—Don't be afraid to call upon your neighbors. That's something all of us can be proud of — Helping one another!

### New Committee: Firewise!

Pine Mountain has officially adopted a new committee called Firewise; after the Firewise Community program co-sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, the US Department of the Interior and the National Association of State Foresters.

The Firewise Communities program is designed to save lives and property from wildfires by teaching people how to adapt to living and encouraging neighbors to work together and take action now to prevent losses during any wildfire.

The first meeting was held on December 20th, hosted by Eric Muecke and Larry Lane plus 3 committee members. Topic: Process of being a Firewise Community & Firewise Grant Process.

The Committee's first Goal is 2 part: Complete an Assessment and Create a Plan. The Assessment will start on February 1st.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of this new Firewise Committee, please contact the POA Office for details.

For information, lists to help prepare you, your home and your community along with copies of all handouts provided by Eric Muecke, contact the POA Office or visit our website: Pine-MountainNC.com/Firewise.html.

#### New Year Quote:

New Year is not about Changing Dates, but the Direction  
It's not about changing the Calendar but Commitment.  
It's not about changing the Action but Attitudes.  
It's not about changing the Fruit but Faith, Force and Focus?  
May you Commit and Create the Best New Year Ever!!

Anonymous

Please make sure the POA Office has all your current contact information ... we never know when it's needed.

### Pine Mountain Water Tower

The water tower, known as "Leaning Water Tower" is in need of being refurbished or replaced, per the state inspection report. The Board is reviewing the quotes to be discussed at the next board meeting.

### Roads & Ditches

The portion of Pine Ridge Drive that's a dirt road connecting Pine Mountain with Mt Gilead Church Rd was repaired recently making access faster and easier for all rescue vehicles and firetrucks.

Note: GPS directions to Pine Mountain use this road as a primary entry point.

The ditch on Pine Mountain Drive is still an issue. It is planned to repair the ditch along with the cleanup of Mr. White's pond.

### Pine Mountain Real Estate

This past quarter there have been 4 homes sold by residents. This means we have new neighbors and friends. The POA owns 28 lots we wish to sell. For a complete list of all the lots for sale, contact the POA Office for details.

### Garden Gate News:

Today, December 21st, is the shortest day of the year and the first day of Winter. The Gardens are sleeping for the next two months. This is a good time to clean your garden of weeds & turn the soil for the spring flowers and vegetables.

The seed catalogs have starting coming in the mail. The catalogs have new flowers and bulbs to try for the coming season.

I'll leave you with the note "What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity?"

Happy Gardening Everyone &  
Have a Merry Christmas!  
Ron Schwing

## RIP: Max Butler

Max Butler, age 90, of Shelby went home to the Lord December 17, 2016. Max also lived at 5591 Pine Ridge Drive here on the mountain. He was a friend to many residents and a former board member. He served on Pine Mountain's Board of Directors for many years and held many different positions, including President.. Max was known for holding Whack N' Hunt golf tournaments for at least 25 years for business associates, residents and golf members. Max was instrumental in the construction of the Thomas Marion Davis Library in Old Fort, NC—named after his wife Mariam's father. One of Max's proudest endeavors. He will be missed by many.

## Financial Brief: Sept—Nov 2016

#### POA Income

#### POA Outgoing

POA:	Dues & Services	Utilities	Maint	Permits, License, Ins, Taxes	POA Office & Salaries	Legal	Equip & Machines	Bldg, Grounds, Roads	Total Out	Difference
Sep	\$ 5,756	\$ 1,596	\$ 5,879	\$ 853	\$ 7,613	\$ 563	\$ 318	\$ 531	\$ 17,353	\$ (11,597)
Oct	\$ 32,218	\$ 4,071	\$ 2,296	\$ 7,703	\$ 10,173	\$ 1,250	\$ 729	\$ 2,050	\$ 28,646	\$ 3,572
Nov	\$ 6,643	\$ 3,623	\$ 3,819	\$ 2,334	\$ 8,100	\$ 215	\$ 664	\$ 72	\$ 18,827	\$ (12,184)

#### Golf Income

#### Golf Outgoing

Golf:	Income	Cart Fees	Total In	Utilities	Maint	Cart Rentals	Pro Shop / Ads	Permits, License, Ins	Salaries	Total Out	Difference
Sep	\$ 9,312	\$ 7,672	\$ 16,984	\$ 392	\$ -	\$ 2,993	\$ 2,305	\$ 807	\$ 12,719	\$ 19,216	\$ (2,232)
Oct	\$ 11,295	\$ 9,145	\$ 20,440	\$ 1,885	\$ 454	\$ 3,966	\$ 2,077	\$ 947	\$ 13,527	\$ 22,856	\$ (2,416)
Nov	\$ 6,138	\$ 5,151	\$ 11,289	\$ 1,697	\$ 223	\$ 2,993	\$ 1,738	\$ 747	\$ 10,948	\$ 18,346	\$ (7,057)

**Note:** Quarterly Dues are requested/due at the beginning of: Jan, Apr, July & Oct. Annual Treasurer's Reports range from July to Jun, POA's fiscal year, not calendar year. This Financial Brief is in consolidated form—for a more explicit detailed report, please request a copy through the POA office. If you would like for this review to continue, please notify the editor. Thank you. Disclaimer: The Pine Mountain Treasurer did not submit this Financial Brief.