



GREEN MOUNTAIN CIVIC LEAGUE

Spring Newsletter

April 2013

<http://www.greenmountaincivicleague.org>

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS
SPRING GREEN MOUNTAIN CLEANUP

Saturday, April 27

Meet at the Green Mountain Nature Trail at 9 a.m.

Please take a morning to do your share to preserve the beauty of our neighborhoods! It only takes **an hour or 2 hours** at most. Thanks!

and the

Annual SPRING Green Mountain Civic League meeting

7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23 at the GM Volunteer Fire Department

(See agenda elsewhere in this newsletter)

Message from the President (Beverly Humphrey): As noted above, the April General Membership Meeting of the Civic League will be held on Tuesday, April 23 at 7 p.m. Our **speaker** will be Julian (Jay) Johnson, an Investigator with the Madison/Morgan County Strategic Counter Drug Team. The League

will also elect officers for the next year.

Please review the enclosed Minutes from the fall meeting and be prepared to approve, amend or correct.

Finally, please mark your calendars now for our ANNUAL FALL PICNIC, to be held at the Green Mountain Nature Trail on Sunday, October 13, 2013.

MEETING AGENDA:

Call to Order – Bev Humphrey

Minutes – Leslie Curtis

Treasurer’s Report – Anita Reck

Vice President – Mark Prill

**Introduction of speaker, Jay Johnson, Investigator with the
Madison/Morgan County Strategic Counter Drug Team**

Committee Chairs Report:

Membership – Janice Martin

Beautification – Susan Prill

Public Safety – Chuck Wayne

Communications – Joani Kerr

Website – Michele Garret

Digital Interface – Susan Prill

Events – Norma Oberlies

Liaison – Chuck Gibb

Bylaws – Curtis Strange

Block Captains – Fred Hinckley

Volunteer Fire Department – Russ Rawson

Neighborhood Watch – Royce Mitchell

Archives – Janice Martin

Old Business

New Business

Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers

Adjourn

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial Activity in 2012

	Civic League	Community Watch	Combined
January 2012			
Beginning balance	\$1896.56	\$1299.49	\$3196.05
INCOME:			
Dues/donations	871.67	429.33	1301.00
Decal reimbursements	46.90	23.10	70.00
Total Income	\$918.57	\$452.43	\$1371.00
EXPENSE:			
Newsletter, postage	(294.90)	(145.26)	(440.16)
Picnic food, supplies	(363.61)	(179.09)	(542.70)
Picnic music	(67.00)	(33.00)	(100.00)
Postal box rental	(57.26)	(28.38)	(86.00)
Website renewal	(105.73)	(52.07)	(157.80)
Bank charges	(32.16)	(15.84)	(48.00)
Total Expenses	\$(921.01)	\$(453.64)	\$(1374.66)
Net Income	\$(2.45)	\$(1.21)	\$(3.66)
12/31/2012			
Ending Balance	\$1894.11	\$1298.28	\$3102.39

NOTE from the Treasurer: GMCL membership forms have been mailed to those residents who need to renew for 2013-2014. If your membership is current, you will receive no form and you may consider yourselves paid up.

Anyone who wishes to buy **Green Mountain bumper stickers** (\$2.00 each) or donate money to the Civic League or Community Watch treasuries, please contact Anita Reck, Treasurer.

REPORT FROM THE GREEN MOUNTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Crestwood Medical Center has generously donated funds to our GMVFD to purchase a defibrillator and needed medical equipment for the recently acquired Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV). The GMVFD is the only volunteer station within the city limits, and having basic and standard emergency equipment in our southern remote neighborhoods supports our community health on the Mountain.

A significant number of the calls answered by the GMVFD are medical in nature. As with any volunteer department, in the past critical time has been spent responding to the fire station to get the fire engine carrying the medical equipment. GMVFD decided to acquire a SUV to be stationed at a trained volunteer's home to improve response time in these cases. A used SUV was donated to the GMVFD and necessary repairs and modifications were made. A set of first responder medical equipment, including an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), identical to that carried on the fire engine, is necessary to have a fully functioning "first responder" vehicle. With this wonderful, much appreciated support from **Crestwood Medical Center**, it will be possible to outfit the medical vehicle.

Thanks go to our neighbor, Marcia Obermann, for her leadership in securing this support and a BIG thank you to **Crestwood Medical Center!**



From Left to Right: Dr. John Wisda, Russ Rawson, Dr. Pam Hudson, Vint Atchley, Dr. John Bowman, Marcia Obermann, and Dr. Russ Simpson

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) On **May 3 and May 4** (between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.) the Green Mountain Volunteer Fire Department is again having a **Yard Sale** to raise funds for their operations in 2013. Donated items can be brought to the Fire House on South Shawdee on

Thursday afternoon, May 2 between 12:00 p.m. and 6 p.m., and during the morning of the sale on May 3rd. All donations are tax deductible. Please **call 256-882-1563** if you have large or heavy items such as furniture that need to be transported. **Please help our fire volunteers in this effort.**

(2) **Community Watch Scam Alert:** There have been three incidents recently where Green Mountain residents were approached by a young man seeking funds for a “self employment start up.”

The young man, who calls himself “Jesse,” tells of recent misfortunes regarding his father being jailed and his own place being burgled of tree service equipment. He seeks funds to purchase chainsaws, lines and other equipment for a “start up.” He promises to provide in-kind work as repayment for donations.

He was provided a small amount of money in one case (much less than what he sought) and no in-kind work has been provided to date. The money is considered a loss.

The residents who were approached had previously had peripheral contact with “Jesse’s” father, so it is possible that he would not seek money from random residents on Green Mountain. However, all residents should certainly be aware of these incidents.

(3) The Better Business Bureau is again offering to **shred documents** for free to the public on **Saturday, April 20** at the Space & Rocket Center. This service will be available **between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.** on that day.

(4) If you have hazardous waste materials (such as paint, motor oil, chemicals, etc.) of which you would like to dispose, you can do so by taking such items to the City Dump on the **first Saturday of each month.**

(5) **NAME THE NEW PARK OF CHANEY THOMPSON ROAD:** Many of you know that the development of a new park off Chaney Thompson Road is underway. The initial phase of this park will be the construction of a dog park, but plans call for continued future development to include baseball fields, a gym, a fitness center, a disc golf course, and other outdoor recreational venues. District 5 Madison County Commissioner Phil Riddick has spearheaded the development of the park, which is a joint venture between the city and the county.

Commissioner Riddick has asked HUNTSVILLE SOUTH to assist him in soliciting suggestions for the name of this park. If you have a suggestion for a name for the new park, please email your suggested name to HUNTSVILLE SOUTH at email@huntsvillesouth.org. Names will be collected and provided to Commissioner Riddick. Be sure to include the reason or rationale for your suggested name. For example, if your suggestion is to name the park after an individual or local company, tell why you

believe the park should be named after that individual or company. Or, if your suggested name carries some historical significance to Huntsville or Madison County, tell them what and why.

Please encourage your south Huntsville and District 5 friends to participate in the naming of the new park. There will be more information to follow about the naming of the park and how a final name will be chosen. Email your suggested name today! Please submit your entry no later than April 15, 2013.

Minutes
Green Mountain Civic League Membership Meeting
October 14, 2012

Board Members Present:

Beverly Humphrey

Mark Prill

Leslie Curtis

Susan Prill

Chuck Wayne

Joani Kerr

Norma Oberlies

Fred Hinckley

Russ Rawson

The Fall Picnic and Membership meeting was well attended. Norma Oberlies introduced the Fahrenheit Singing Group, who performed for the picnic attendees. Jerry Craig was introduced and Beverly Humphrey presented the "Key to Green Mountain" to Mr. Craig, making him an honorary resident of Green Mountain. A plaque was also given to Jerry and his wife for their service of 28 years. Ron Shafer said a prayer for the meal that had been prepared. Recognition was given to Bill Varnadoe, who had received the Legion d'Honneur certificate, which is the highest honor from the French government for

his service during World War II.

The meeting was called to order and the Minutes were adopted as read from the April 16, 2012 GMCL Membership meeting.

Mark Prill, GMCL Vice-President, introduced the speakers from the Alabama Forestry Commission: Mr. Gary Braxton from Tuskegee, who is the Madison County Forestry Ranger. Gary studied Forestry Management at Alabama A & M University, and has been with the Alabama Forestry Commission since 2007. Ms. Coleen Vansant, the Wild Land Urban Interface Project Director, has been with the Alabama Forestry Commission for over 26 years. Her office is located in Gardendale, AL, and her Project Director responsibilities cover the entire state. Mr. Braxton discussed the mission of the Forestry Commission, and demonstrated some of the Commission's fire fighting hand tools. Ms. Vansant discussed Urban Fire issues, important Do's and Don'ts to prevent fires around your home, and handouts were made available.

Commissioner Jerry Craig made a few remarks and invited everyone to his retirement party, which was to be held on November 6, 2012 from 3-6 p.m. at the Jaycees Building.

The two men running for the position of commissioner to replace Mr. Craig, Eddie Sisk and Jeff Cooper were introduced and each made a few comments.

Committee Chair Reports:

Beautification: Susan Prill reported that it was a beautiful fall day for the mountain cleanup. Thanks to the 19 people who came out to help pick up trash; names are listed in the GMCL email sent out afterwards. It was especially nice to see children helping out – Emily and Mary Gant and Erik Foslien – and Scout Cody Moore – they are the future and are learning early to take pride in our beautiful mountain top. To cover the major parts of the mountain, some people had to double up and clean multiple sections so we could still use more people to come out and help in April at the spring cleanup. The mountain roads are very dangerous, **SO PLEASE, if driving while we are cleaning, PLEASE SLOW DOWN.** Thanks to the City of Huntsville Inmate Program for cleaning Green Mountain Road and to the Green Team for the new safety vests, grabbers, and trash bags. Thanks to all for helping out!

Public Safety: Chuck Wayne talked about the progress in resurfacing the roads on Green Mountain. This started about 5 years ago and progress has been made. He emphasized vehicle safety, especially in the area on South Shawnee right before the entrance to the Green Mountain Nature Trail, where several serious accidents have occurred in the past. He also talked about the widening of the curve on North Shawnee.

Communications: Joani Kerr, no report.

Digital Interface: Susan Prill, no report.

Events: Norma Oberlies thanked everyone for their efforts in getting the Fall picnic put together.

Block Captains: Fred Hinckley reported on a couple of items. He reiterated that mailbox numbers need to be placed on both sides of mailboxes to provide visibility for emergency vehicles that could approach from either direction. He said that the GMCL would be providing numbers to residents who do not have their numbers on each side. Residents would be contacted by their block captain with a form for the addition of these numbers. An Eagle Scout will be applying the numbers to mailboxes as part of his public service. The costs to cover this activity were estimated at \$650.00. A motion was made and seconded to have the GMCL treasury cover this cost. The motion passed.

Volunteer Fire Department: Russ Rawson talked about the need for a defibrillator for the recently acquired Medic 13 Vehicle. The cost for this was \$895.00 for a refurbished unit. A motion was made and seconded to spend money from the GMCL treasury for this equipment. The motion passed.

General Discussion: John Lasik said he had been getting momentary power outages recently and that after contacting Huntsville Utilities, both the Primary and Secondary Fault units have been replaced which seems to have fixed the problem.

Ron Shafer asked about the timetable for the planned tree trimming. It was stated that this should begin occurring in the November/December time frame.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Curtis, Secretary

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE

March 18, 2013

The Public Safety Committee (PSC), a standing committee of the GMCL, has worked with the City Public Works Services to complete the following improvements/repairs to our Green Mountain streets and right-of-ways:

- Completed the widening of the “blind corner” on Mountcrest Road
- Installed raised pavement markers (RPM) on Mountcrest Road
- Removed the brush/tree limbs growing in the right-of-way on Monte Vedra Rd.
- Installed RPM on Green Oaks Circle, Carr Lane and the remaining portions of Mountcrest Road
- Installed a missing street sign near the south end of South Shawdee Road

Also, the PSC sent a report to all Green Mountain residents concerning a suspicious incident regarding a woman inquiring as to families with young children living on Green Mountain.

Standing Committees, their Chairperson, & the responsibilities of each committee:

Archives: Janice Martin Maintain accurate and comprehensive records of the GMCL and public issues related to Green Mountain.

Beautification: Susan Prill Work on infrastructure issues, and the appearance of public areas, as well as scheduling and managing clean-up days.

Block Captains: Royce Mitchell Recruit and coordinate block captains to provide rapid two-way communication in urgent or emergency situations on the mountain.

Communications: Joani Kerr Facilitate and expand communications among residents through this

newsletter and the Green Mountain website.

Data Base: Anita Reck Maintain and secure the GMCL data base of residents' names, addresses, and email addresses.

Events: Norma Oberlies Manage the annual GMCL fall picnic and any other organized recreational events held by the GMCL.

Membership: Janice Martin Expand membership and maintaining accurate and timely records.

Public Safety: Chuck Wayne Monitor and alert residents to crime, vandalism, and threats to property on Green Mountain, contacting proper authorities if necessary.

Liaison Committee: Chuck Gibb Contact and communicate with local government entities in matters pertaining to the interest of the GMCL.
