

Foundation News



A PUBLICATION OF THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION

TO PRESERVE OPEN LAND, TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND TO OFFER A PLACE FOR EQUESTRIAN PURPOSES

VOLUME 12
MARCH 2016

A NEW LIFE FOR AN OLD BUILDING

Thanks to the generosity of Lyell and Brian McMerty, in August 2014, The Walthour-Moss Foundation purchased twenty-five acres east of May Street and north of Mile Away Lane in Southern Pines. The area, now known as Lyell's Meadow, includes two structures: a former equipment shed and workshop.

The shed was designed by William O. "Pappy" Moss and built in the 1950s with timber cut from the surrounding land. According to legend, Pappy lined up the Mile-Away Farm equipment on the site and designed the shed to accommodate all of his farm vehicles under one roof. The shed has eight bays with eight top hung sliding board and rail doors. It is easy to imagine it filled with the tractors and trucks used to run the Mile-Away Farm horse and cattle operation.

In years past, the shed was also utilized for various equestrian community events such as the Carolinas Hound Show, held every May from 1980 to 2010, Ginnie Moss's Welcome Fall party, The Walthour-Moss Foundation Point-to-Point Races after-party, and several Stoneybrook Steeplechase after-parties.

Remembering many happy events on the shed's bucolic site, Foundation President Neil Schwartzberg envisioned a new life for the old shed with the collapsing roof. In the winter of 2015, Neil approached the board with a detailed plan to renovate the shed that included repairing the roof, painting the building, upgrading the electrical system, adding doors and ramps to connect the inside bays with the outdoor covered awning and pouring a concrete floor under the exterior awning.

The Foundation board approved the plan to repair and upgrade the shed with funds specifically raised and designated for that purpose. A special thanks goes to the donors listed below for their gifts to restore the shed for our community.

LYELL'S MEADOW SHED DONORS



RENOVATION OF THIS BUILDING WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH
THE GENEROSITY OF THESE DONORS

KATHY AND CHRIS VIRTUE

ANNE AND DICK WEBB

JOHN WIEDMER AND JAY-KAR CONTRACTING, INC.

KENDYL AND ERIC JANIS

ANDREA MOORE

Cathy and David Carter
Rhonda and Alan Dretel
Sharon and Jim Granito
Stephen Later
Andrea and Dick Moore
Cindy and Dennis Paules
Cameron and Lincoln Sadler

Neil Schwartzberg
Kathryn and Jock Tate
Katie and Dick Walsh
Caroline and Wade Young
Jackie and Rick Allenbaugh
Babette and Norman Minery

THANK YOU FOR RESTORING THIS SHED FOR OUR COMMUNITY

2016

Our thanks goes to Foundation President Neil Schwartzberg for organizing and overseeing every detail of the repair and refurbishment of the shed, to Jim Granito for time spent aboard his tractor manicuring the grasses of Lyell's Meadow and restoring the track, and to Norman Minery for the countless hours spent removing debris in and around the building.

The Walthour-Moss Foundation's major fundraising event, the Horse Country Hoedown, will be held at the shed on Saturday, April 30, 2016. It is the inaugural event at the renovated site. Make plans to join us on that special night as we add our own story to the history of this special community building.

After April 30, members of the local horse community are welcome to use the Lyell's Meadow shed for their community events. Interested parties should contact the Foundation office for details.

LENDING A HELPING HAND TO THE BLUEBIRDS OF WMF

On Sunday, February 14, members of The Walthour-Moss Foundation Bushwhacker Club met to clean and repair the Foundation's bluebird boxes. Five groups, armed with maps, gloves, hammers, nails, and soap to deter wasps from nesting prepared ninety bluebird boxes for the spring nesting season. Of the ninety nesting boxes cleaned, volunteers reported that only five had not been used for nesting in the previous year.

Thank you to the following volunteers who turned out to complete this important project:

Makyla Alexander	Debra D'Angelo
Leigh Allen	Wendy Good
Susan Campbell	Doug Jackson
David Carter	Bill Logan
Aggie and David Cohen	Neil Schwartzberg
Terry and Charlie Cook	Ted Stevens

BLUEBIRD NESTING BOX MONITORS NEEDED

Eastern Bluebirds are cavity nesting birds and providing nesting boxes is a valuable endeavor. Fewer snags left standing on the landscape mean fewer nesting options for the bluebirds. In turn, cleaning the nesting boxes each year is extremely important as bluebirds will use them to nest from one to three times each nesting season. Bluebirds often use a different cavity each time they nest. If birds are depredated in one spot, they require a different location for a re-nesting attempt; as bluebirds will not nest in a place where they have previously experienced failure.

If you like birds and walking, we need your help! We plan to monitor a small portion of the bluebird nesting boxes on the Foundation this spring and summer. We would like to determine the productivity of the birds that use them and also identify possible nest predation by Southern Flying Squirrels, snakes, and sparrows.

Volunteers will be given instructions and data sheets to record bird box activity every ten days to two weeks. Details to be recorded include nest type, number of eggs and number of young from April through August.

Here in the Sandhills, more than the bluebirds benefit from the nesting boxes. We anticipate finding not only Eastern Bluebirds using the boxes but, hopefully, Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, and Brown-headed Nuthatches as well.

No experience is necessary! If you are available to monitor once twice, or even the whole summer, please sign-up. We will coordinate the schedule and boxes to be monitored.

Highlights from the 2016 nesting season will be reported in the Foundation News this fall.



Photo by Landon Russell

VOLUNTEER TERRY COOK CHECKS A NESTING BOX.



Photo by Landon Russell

BLUEBIRD DAY VOLUNTEERS BILL LOGAN AND MAKYLA ALEXANDER

LAND MANAGEMENT AND STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Following is an update on our forest stewardship activities for 2016. As you may recall, our forester, Terry Sharpe, came on board in 2014 to help us update and implement our long-term forest stewardship and management plan. The plan covers a wide range of forest stewardship activities including some that take place annually, like prescribed burning, oak removal and bluebird box maintenance, as well as some long range projects that will take place over a span of fifty (yes, 50!) years at an interval of every eight to ten years. Most of these forest stewardship activities are not new to the Foundation, but some have not been seen in awhile. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are excited about our forest stewardship plan as it provides for the long range preservation of our longleaf pine forest, and, of course, we would be happy to discuss it with you.

2016 Prescribed Burning Update

The 2016 prescribed burn plan calls for burning on approximately 1,300 acres. To date, burns have been completed on approximately 1,000 acres, and we hope to have the remainder completed by the end of year. Prescribed burning is not only critical to certain native

plants, like wiregrass, but reduces the fuel load on the ground and thus limits the danger of forest fires.

2016 Midstory Clearing of Oaks

The 2016 plan calls for the removal of oak trees on approximately 125 acres of land made dense by stands of scrub oaks. This project is an effort to repair the open landscape that defines the longleaf pine savannah. In very dense areas, some longleaf will also be removed in order to allow trees to thrive. The Nature Conservancy is currently working on a section of oaks off of Firelane 2. Additional oak removal will be completed along Furr Road this Spring.

2016 Loblolly and Slash Pine Plantation Conversion

Sixty to seventy years ago, prior to Foundation ownership and management, approximately 400 acres of what is now the North Country and 20 acres of what is now the main Foundation were planted in loblolly pine and slash pine. Over the next fifty years, these areas will be restored to longleaf pine forest. This will be accomplished by removing approximately 30-40 acres of loblolly and slash pine every eight to ten years in half-acre to one-acre

2016 WMF Project Map

Please note that this is a rough map and lines shown are approximate.

- Remaining 2016 Prescribed Burn Areas
- Midstory Clearing of Oaks Areas
- Loblolly and Slash Pine Conversion Areas
- Closed Canopy Thinning Area
- RCW Box Installation Area





Photo by Landon Russell

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY COMPLETES A PRESCRIBED BURN ON WMF.

sections. These small, cleared areas will then be replanted with longleaf pine seedlings. Over the next two years, the focus area for loblolly and slash removal will be located in the North Country between Moor Meadow and Aiken Road. In addition, a fifteen acre area along Furr Road will have all of the loblolly and slash removed at one time. This project is underway and will continue through the month of April.

2016 Closed Canopy Thinning

We also have a few areas where the longleaf pine trees are actually too thick. The dense growth of longleaf pine creates a closed canopy and poor ground cover. These areas must be thinned so that light will reach the forest floor to aid in the growth of ground cover which in turn helps our wildlife find cover as well as food. Thinning longleaf pine allows more resources to be available to the remaining trees which increases the chances of their long-term survival. It also allows more longleaf to grow so that the forest is not single-aged and younger trees are coming behind to replace the older ones. Another benefit is that these stands will be less susceptible to mortality from fire when the canopy is open and heat can escape. Over the next two years, the focus area for closed canopy thinning will be located in the North Country adjacent to Moor Meadow. Any funds that we receive from this timber removal, as well as the loblolly and slash pine timber removal, will be reserved, per our policies, for land acquisition in the future. This project is underway and will continue through the month of April.

2016 RCW Cavity Installation

A very exciting project is scheduled in conjunction with the closed canopy thinning. We are working with wildlife

specialists to review the closed canopy thinning area adjacent to Moor Meadow to identify trees that will be provisioned with nests for the federally-endangered Red Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW). RCWs have been spotted foraging in Moor Meadow in recent months. If established, this RCW cluster will be the first in the North Country!

2016 Firelane and Trail Stabilization

Sections of the firelanes and several trails have recently been stabilized by mixing wood chips with the existing sand. This project is ongoing in an effort to stabilize the sand, alleviate washouts, and create better footing. It also helps us conserve Foundation funds by minimizing the work needed on these trails.

Communication and Questions

We will continue to update you on our forest stewardship projects via the Foundation News, email, Facebook and Twitter. Some of the projects will involve heavy machinery, and those walking, riding or driving in the Foundation should take care to avoid those areas while the machinery is in use. We will send out notices when each project gets underway with details on location and as estimated time frame for completion. As always, should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you, as always, for your support and patience.

WHAT'S IN BLOOM?



Photo by Katie Walsh

Birdsfot Violet (*Viola pedate*)

Birdsfot Violet (*Viola pedate*) is stemless. Leaves are 2.5-5 cm long with three principal divisions. Flowers are 3-4.5 cm broad with five lavender petals opening in one plane. A brilliant orange color is conspicuous in center of the flower. Blooms March-May.



SPRING TRAIL RIDE

Saturday, May 21, 2016

STARTING FROM LYELL'S MEADOW
225 MILE AWAY LANE, SOUTHERN PINES, NC

Open start, marked trail

Trail ride 8:00 am - 11:30 am

Lunch 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

\$25 per entry. Entry fee includes lunch
Choice of hamburger or hot dog, chips, drink and dessert

Proceeds Benefit WMF Trail Repair Fund

Entries accepted through May 21

Entries received before May 6 will receive a WMF bandana

Entries accepted by mail, phone and online. Please see entry information on reverse

Ride will be held rain or shine

For more information please contact Landon Russell at 910-695-7811

The Walthour-Moss Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



WMF SPRING TRAIL RIDE

Participant Name 1: _____ 2: _____

Participant Name 3: _____ 4: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

___ My Check, payable to WMF is enclosed for \$ _____ ___ Charge my credit card \$ _____

Card no: _____ Exp: _____ CVV: _____ Signature: _____



SPRING TRAIL RIDE

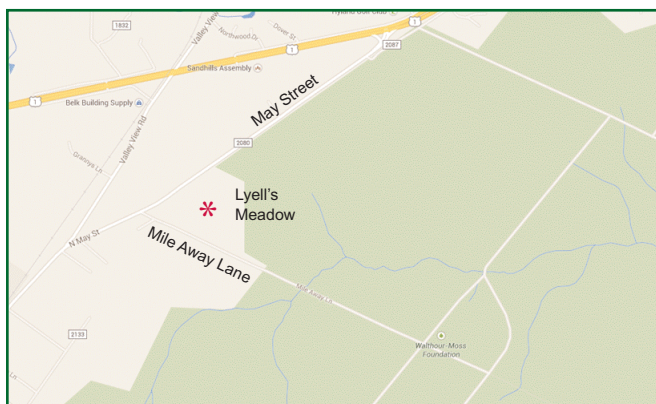


TO SUPPORT THE TRAIL REPAIR FUND OF
THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION

Saturday, May 21 from 8:00 am - 11:30 am

Please join us and enjoy a spring ride through the trails of The Walthour-Moss Foundation. A marked trail will be open from 8:00 am until 11:30 am. The entry fee is \$25 per rider and includes lunch. Lunch will be served from 11:30 am until 12:30 pm and includes choice of hot dog or hamburger as well as chips, drink and dessert.

Sign up by May 6th and receive a complimentary WMF bandana!



Directions: From US Highway 1: Take the May Street exit towards Southern Pines. Drive 2 miles on May Street to Mile Away Lane. Turn left on Mile Away Lane and follow signs to parking at Lyell's Meadow.

Event Information

- ENTRY fees are \$25 per rider and include lunch.
- ENTRIES received on or before May 6 receive WMF bandana.
- LUNCH served from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm and includes choice of hotdog or hamburger, chips, drink and dessert.
- TO enter, please return entry form or call Landon Russell at 910-695-7811. To enter online, please log on to our website: www.walthour-moss.org.
- OPEN start. Sign in at welcome table and ride when you are ready.
- ON SITE water available.
- SIGNED WMF release and COPY of current negative Coggins are required to participate.
- ENTRIES will be accepted through the day of the event.

THE WALTHOUR-MOSS FOUNDATION
POST OFFICE BOX 1794
SOUTHERN PINES, NC 28388



SPRING TRAIL RIDE

MAY 21, 2016



WMF 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 2, 2016

BUSHWHACKER JUMP REPAIR AND BUILDING

The Bushwhacker Club will meet at Equestrian Road at 9:00 am on Saturday, April 2 to build and repair jumps. No experience is necessary and all are welcome. Volunteers are encouraged to bring gloves, saws, clippers and weed whackers. To volunteer please email Landon Russell at director@walthour-moss.org.

APRIL 3, 2016

WMF BIRD WALK WITH SUSAN CAMPBELL

Please join us on Sunday, April 3 at 8:00 am for a bird walk with local ornithologist Susan Campbell. We will meet at the intersection of Firelane 2 and Youngs Road. The address is approximately 2340 Youngs Road. Look for the big white gates set about 100 feet off of Youngs Road.

Please be sure to wear sturdy walking shoes and bring binoculars. If you have questions please email Landon Russell at director@walthour-moss.org.

APRIL 30, 2016

HORSE COUNTRY HOEDOWN

Yee Haw and Giddy-Up! Boots and jeans are welcome at the Horse Country Hoedown on Saturday, April 30 from 5:30 pm until 9:30 pm. Hope Y'ALL will join us for a toe tapping, boot stomping, knee slapping, horse loving good time in support of The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Tickets are \$125 per person, \$200 per couple or \$500 per host ticket. For tickets, please visit our website at www.walthour-moss.org, call 910-695-7811 or email director@walthour-moss.org.

MAY 17, 2016

ANNUAL MEETING

The Walthour-Moss Foundation annual meeting will be held at Lyell's Meadow on Tuesday, May 17 at 5:00 pm. The community is invited to join us for an update on the Foundation's current activities. Light refreshments will be served.

MAY 21, 2016

WMF SPRING TRAIL RIDE

Enjoy a spring ride through the trails of The Walthour-Moss Foundation on Saturday, May 21. A marked trail starting at Lyell's Meadow will be open from 8:00 am until

11:30 am. The entry fee is \$25 per rider and includes lunch. Lunch will be served from 11:30 am until 12:30 pm and includes choice of hot dog or hamburger as well as chips, drink, and dessert. Sign up by May 6th and receive a complimentary WMF bandana. Proceeds benefit the WMF Trail Repair Fund.

JUNE 11, 2016

WMF FUN DOG SHOW

Back by popular demand! On Saturday, June 11, please join us at Lyell's Meadow for a fun dog show. Classes to include Cutest, Best Trick, Best Coiffed, Jr. Handler, Look Alike, Best Rescue, Father and Dog, and Best in Show! \$5 per class.

Online entries will be accepted from June 1 through June 9th. Entries will also be accepted on the day of the show starting at 8:30 am. The fun dog show starts at 9:00 am.

OCTOBER 2, 2016

HORSE COUNTRY SOCIAL

Come one, come all and join us for the fifth annual Horse Country Social on Sunday, October 2 from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm at Lyell's Meadow. Tickets available for purchase by mail, phone and online starting August 1. Ticket price: \$35 per adult and \$15 per child.

OCTOBER 23, 2016

TRICK AND TREAT TRAIL RIDE

The Trick-and-Treat Trail Ride through The Walthour-Moss Foundation North Country will be held on Sunday, October 23 at Moor Meadow. A marked trail decorated in Halloween style will be open to riders from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Carriages are welcome from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Gallop like a ghoul, trot along like Ichabod Crane, or walk and wander. There will be no time limit. Costumes are optional. Prizes for costumes will be awarded throughout the day. Funds raised are tax-deductible and will be used for The Walthour-Moss Foundation trail repair. Plan to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in Moor Meadow or purchase food at the on-site concession stand.

DECEMBER 2016

PRESERVE OUR FOREST GOLF TOURNAMENT

Attention Golfers! The fifth annual Preserve Our Forest Golf Tournament will be scheduled for early December 2016. Please stay tuned for further details.



The Walthour-Moss Foundation
Post Office Box 1794
Southern Pines, NC 28388

The Walthour-Moss Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation.

For more information, please contact Landon Russell at **910-695-7811**
or via email at director@walthour-moss.org or logon to our website at
www.walthour-moss.org.

HORSE COUNTRY HOEDOWN

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TOE TAPPING, BOOT STOMPING,
KNEE SLAPPING, HORSE LOVING GOOD TIME!

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2016
5:30 PM UNTIL 9:30 PM
LYELL'S MEADOW SHED

\$125 PER PERSON OR \$200 PER COUPLE
HOST TICKETS \$500

For tickets, please call
Landon Russell at 910-695-7811,
email director@walthour-moss.org,
or visit www.walthour-moss.org.



Proceeds benefit The Walthour-Moss Foundation.

