

# Village East Voice

March 2024



**Village East POA**  
**P.O. Box 452**  
**Moneta, Virginia 24121**  
**[www.villageeast.org](http://www.villageeast.org)**

## *A Message from the VEPOA President*

I always look at Spring from two different perspectives. On the one hand, the weather is unpredictable, generally soggy, and our wonderful Virginia red clay creates small red rivers all over the community!

But much more importantly, it is an entry to new life. Daffodils are already up. I saw some buds on trees the other day. I've seen folks in Village East cleaning their yards up, getting ready for new growth. We are "March"-ing into those months that make us happy to be at the lake.

Speaking of "entry," you've probably all seen the work that has been done at the entry to Village East. Mark Thompson gathered a sturdy bunch of volunteers who - over the course of two days - jack-hammered and shoveled their way through the mess that was there. We've been talking to our vendors about designs to now put the finishing touches on this. But for now, I'd like to thank Mark, Greg "the monster" Lottes, Jan Lottes, Russell Snow, Carl Bowser, Dave Gillespie, and Freeman Paulson (see photo above) for all their hard labor! Their efforts certainly saved us thousands of dollars. More on the next steps at our March meeting.

We will also be hearing more about our association boat launch and docks at our March meeting. It looks

as though we are finally in synch with AEP and our contractors and can move forward.

We have all heard how important volunteerism is here at Village East. Recently, Jennifer Thompson and Marcia St. John have been welcoming and interviewing new residents to VE. Thanks to both of them! You can see some of that information in this newsletter. Another form of volunteering is our very important board of directors. Every year we have folks coming off their 3-year terms and this year is no different. At our June annual association meeting, we'll be electing new board members, so if you have an interest in being on the ballot, please send me ([vepoapresident@gmail.com](mailto:vepoapresident@gmail.com)) or Dave Horn ([vepoasml@gmail.com](mailto:vepoasml@gmail.com)) an email. I cannot emphasize enough how important these roles are in keeping Village East a great place to live!

**Lastly, a reminder that our next board meeting is Thursday March 14th at 7 p.m. It will be held at the Regional Water Authority on Radford Church Road. All are welcome to attend.**

Sincerely,

*Eric Camplin, VEPOA President*

630-709-8928 / [vepoapresident@gmail.com](mailto:vepoapresident@gmail.com)

# Welcome, Neighbors!

*Interviews by Jennifer Thompson and Marcia St. John*

## **Brandon and April Moore**

Welcome, Brandon and April! They moved from Annapolis, Maryland, to 103 Wagon Wheel Trail. Brandon and April have been married now for 20 years and have a beautiful blended family. Brandon has two daughters, Emma and Taylor. April has two children, son Lance and daughter Taylor. The children have happily grown up together are now 27, 28, 29, and 30.

April and Brandon first visited SML when April's daughter was wed at a venue on the lake. They knew then they wanted to live here and bought their new home without even seeing it. April knew it would be a wonderful place to entertain grandchildren and it looks like her dream has been fulfilled. Their first grandchild, Riley Ann, arrived in December, and there is another one on the way. There are also other family members of the four-legged kind: two cats, Tux and Artie, and goldendoodle Darla.

April works from home as a VP with MasTec. Brandon left his position as a hardscape foreman, but has been very busy with the move and projects planned at the new home. They look forward to plenty of fishing and relaxing walks with Darla. There is also a boat in their future!

**Contact info:**

**Phone (443) 534 -7983 / [April.moore@mastec.com](mailto:April.moore@mastec.com)**

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## **Bill and Anne Butler**

Let's welcome Bill and Anne Butler to Village East! They moved into 232 Little Creek Road in November 2023, from Charlottesville.

They lived in Long Island, New York, for most of their lives until deciding to downsize and move to a townhouse in Charlottesville. They had always lived by the water and found themselves longing to be back around it again, just not salt water. After searching for lakes in New England, North Carolina, and Virginia, they found SML not only beautiful but close to family.

With their three boys grown, they recently adopted a new member of the family - an adorable goldendoodle named Makyse, whose name is a mash-up of all their sons' initials. He is also the first dog they have ever owned.

Anne works for United Airlines and Delta as a ticket agent. Bill is a retired engineer/computer IT guy who has been keeping busy renovating the new home. They are excited about getting a boat and exploring the lake and all the fun that comes from living the lake life

**Contact info:**

**Bill (434) 806- 0311 / [bb.0908@outlook.com](mailto:bb.0908@outlook.com)  
Anne (631) 972-0411**

## **Rick and Tabatha Robinson**

We welcome Rick and Tabatha Robinson and their two daughters, 15-year-old Anna and 12-year-old Lauren, to the neighborhood, as well as family dog Bruno. They have moved from the busy town of Haymarket in Northern Virginia, to their new beautiful home at 302 Indian Ridge Drive.

They have always been familiar with Smith Mountain Lake and planned to move here in retirement. But with Tabatha's job as a marketing manager for Verizon giving her the ability to work at home and with Rick currently home awaiting back surgery, they saw no reason to wait for retirement and jumped at the chance to make the move. The girls are adjusting to their new school, making new friends and feeling right at home. Anna has taken American sign language as a second language for a college requirement and is very good at it. Lauren announced in her first week of school that she already found a best friend!

Tabatha loves reading and writing, and is hoping to publish her first book very soon. She describes it as a clean young romance novel, suitable for young women. She'll let us know when it's published.

Rick and Tabatha love riding their motorbikes around the area. Rick's passion is hunting and fishing. When his back is finally healed, he'll be looking for work. His dream job would be working in a tackle shop! Hope he finds that perfect job!

**Contact info:**

**Rick (703) 795-2430 / [rickrob0471@gmail.com](mailto:rickrob0471@gmail.com)**

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## **Elaine Lawson**

A warm welcome to Elaine, our new neighbor in the cute yellow house at 1001 Indian Ridge. Many already know her, as her son Russ Snow lives on Bacova. And Smith Mountain Lake is not new to her. She lived here back in the '80's. Elaine still has her antique store - Thrill of the Hunt - in Roanoke that she has owned for around 50 years. One of her greatest joys is collecting antiques for her store. She has one grandson and a Yorkie named Gigi.

**Contact info:**

**Phone 540-312-7110 / [elawson8@cox.net](mailto:elawson8@cox.net)**

### *Village East Voice*

The newsletter of the  
Village East Property Owners Association  
is published periodically and can also be found at

**[www.villageeast.org](http://www.villageeast.org)**

Email: [vepoanewslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:vepoanewslettereditor@gmail.com)

# A few notes . . .

## . . . from the Treasurer

Many thanks to the faithful members of VEPOA who have paid their annual dues on time. A friendly reminder to those that may have forgotten, please get your payment in soon!

We continue to have great volunteer support in our community. Members give their time and talents generously and this helps to keep Village East going strong. Members were given the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed VEPOA Reserve Analysis for 2024-2029 in January.

The Board will be reviewing those comments and finalizing the Reserve Analysis and our capital expense projects for 2024 at their March 14th meeting. The community dock upgrade was delayed from 2023 and with our AEP permit recently approved, this project should be completed this year.

We finished 2023 in a strong financial position and have carefully planned the 2024 budget to allow for unexpected costs while remaining fiscally conservative. I would like to take this chance to thank the members of our wonderful community for your support and kindness over the past three years as I have served on the VEPOA Board as your treasurer. I've enjoyed it very much, especially getting to know and work with so many of you!

*Karen Jeffery*  
*VEPOA Treasurer*



## . . . about Trees

### **Additional interpretation to Covenant #8 regarding pre-approved tree removal (a reprint in case you missed it)**

The architectural committee has interpreted the covenant to permit the removal of two undesirable trees - Virginia Pines and "Tree of Heaven" (pictured above) - without pre-approval from the committee.

Existing native "Virginia Pines" that grow in Village East are not strong or desirable trees. They tend to block the growth of hardwoods and other desirable plant life.

A non-native tree (*Ailanthus altissima* - also known as "Tree of Heaven" or "stinking sumac") grows prevalently in Village East but is an invasive species. It reproduces very quickly and can kill native plants near it.

The architectural committee is hereby giving approval to remove "Virginia Pines" and "Tree of Heaven" regardless of size without additional approval of the Architectural Committee.

In addition, trees that have fallen over, dead trees (trees that have no leaves), or trees that are in immediate danger of falling on a dwelling, other structure, dock or roadway, may be removed without approval of the Architectural Committee.

Any other tree removals require approval by the Architectural Committee.

**Please see [www.villageeast.org](http://www.villageeast.org)  
for additional details on architectural  
and tree-cutting guidelines**



## . . . from the Road Clean-up Crew

Join us! The Road Clean-Up Crew meets twice a year, usually on one Saturday in April and one in October, to pick up trash along Hickory Hill Lane. (Membership consists of anybody who shows up on that day!) Orange safety vests, orange trash bags, and trash grabbers are provided. You never know what you might find. The effort is part of the VDOT Adopt-a-Highway program. A sign will be posted near the Village East entrance announcing the April date.