



“Along the Gooney”

Browntown Community Center Association

January, 2023

Vol. 31 No. 01 Editors: Jackie Hodgkiss Jackie.BCCA@gmail.com & Tom Lacombe tomlacombe@comcast.net

Board of Directors 2023

President	John Bell	540 635-9705
Vice Pres.	Linda Glavis	540 636-3802
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Treasurer	Ian Fisher	540-305-7957
Trustees	Allan Brockway	540 635-7783
	Jim Sylvester	540 636-7565
	Denny Pennington	540 635-5568

Browntown Calendar

- Jan. 1st 2023 - New Year's Day
- Jan. 2nd Mon. BCCA Redbud meeting Volunteers 7:00
- Jan. 9th Mon. BCCA public business meeting 7:30
- Jan. 30th Deadline for Feb. newsletter

Browntown Baptist Church

browntownbaptistva@gmail.com

Pastor: Sherman Kaipha Brown

Worship Service @ 11 a.m. Fellowship @ 12 p.m.

Cool Spring Church of God

Pastor: Jeff Fletcher

Sunday School at 9:30 and Worship at 10:30.

Summer hours will run until the end of September.

Limeton United Methodist Church

Pastor: Anne Sisson

10 a.m. Sunday school

11:15 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

BROWNTOWN WEB PAGE

www.browntowncommunity.com

Along the Gooney Newsletters (current 4 months)

BCCA Events

Browntown History pages

Photo Galleries

Advertising, Sponsors & other info. and links

Webmaster: George Hodgkiss

1015gwh@centurylink.net

BROWNTOWN ROAD LITTER PICKUP

A Special Thanks to Izaak Walton League

We all are very lucky to have the Izaak Walton League that volunteers to keep our Browntown roads clean.

Thanks to all the volunteers who come out and pick up all the trash that has littered our roads.

You do not need to be a member of the IWL to participate.

Children are welcome if accompanied by a parent.

Dennis Mosher, IWL Anti-litter Coordinator
(540) 635-3559 iwl.antilitter@gmail.com

BCCA SPRING YARD SALE

MARCH 17TH AND 18TH

9:00 TO 2:00

Thurs. and Friday



As you start to clean out your closets, basements and garages, please consider donating your items to the community center. We are accepting your donations anytime. You can bring them to the center by getting a key from Tom or by calling Patsy for drop off. Please place all items in the back room.

Along the Gooney Newsletter

The Browntown newsletter is published monthly and is posted on the BCCA Web Page. We still have 70 people that get the newsletter by mail and we ask that you help cover the cost. Costs per year:

Permit \$245.

P.O. Mail \$139.

Printing copies \$672.

Total \$1056.

Many people have sent in their \$15.00 yearly fee. If you would like to continue receiving a paper copy, please send your check for \$15.00, made out to BCCA, and mail to: BCCA, 96 Browntown Road, Browntown, VA 22610

Thank you

EFFECTIVE Jan. 1, 2023

Browntown's Email List

The BCCA email list is a great way to receive information about current Browntown Community Center events, reminders of meetings and requests for help, or anything you want to send out to the community. If you have something for sale, send me a picture, and I will post it for you.

This is also a way to alert our community of a lost cat, dog or even a cow! If you wish to be added to our list, please send your request to:

Ian Fisher

To be added to the BCCA list, please call Ian at 540-305-7957 or email him: iandfishe@gmail.com

All future notices, flyers and information on future events and meetings should be sent to Ian for posting.

Obituaries

Mrs. Francine Duchesne (DeJardin) Haughey, 95, of Browntown, passed away on Dec.16, in Staunton, VA. Francine was born near Brussels, Belgium. She was a daughter of the late Nestor and Eva (DeJardin) Duchesne. Her early years were spent living in Brussels and then The Ardennes during WW II. After the war ended, Francine made her way on foot at the age of 16 years, back to her mother's house in Brussels. She spent the remainder of her teens after the war "dancing and practicing her schoolgirl English," until it was time to work. After trying several jobs, Francine decided to "introduce herself" to the American Embassy and was able to secure a job in the Consular Section. One of her jobs was to register Americans living in Belgium and not long after, a nice young man with a strange last name came to register. A few months later at an embassy reception, they met again. Francis "Frank" Haughey was an American living in Belgium where he was accepted to work for the US State Dept. after the war ended. Frank and Francine were married, and spent the next 40 years living in all corners of the world with the State Dept.; Hong Kong, Greece, Canada, Aruba, Haiti, and finally Wash. DC. After retiring from the foreign service and teaching French to diplomats, the Haugheys settled in Browntown, at their beloved Sycamore Springs Farm where they hosted friends and family for decades. Francine is survived by her grandchildren, Michelle (Haughey) Bailey and husband Matthew, Nicole (Haughey) Marou and husband Christopher, and Heather (Cornwell) Bonnette and husband Jake "J.D."; and three great-grandchildren, Enzo Bailey, Lucas Marou, and Maggie. In addition to her husband and parents, Francine was preceded in death by her two children, Maureen (Haughey) Cornwell, and Dean Haughey; her grandson, James "Jamie" Cornwell, and five siblings.

Memorial gifts be made to the Alzheimer's Association

Roger A. Heston, 67, of Browntown, passed away on December 5, 2022, at his home. Mr. Heston was born on September 24, 1955, in Fairmont, West Virginia, to the late Richard and Margie Drake Heston. Survivors include his son, Jason R. Heston of Fairmont; two brothers, Clyde Heston of Bentonville and Gary Heston of Fairmont, and two grandchildren, Isaiah and Brittany Teets, both of Fairmont.

O.J. Rudacille Gen. Mdse.

Phone 636-2149

Sunday Noon till 4pm

Mon thru Sat 7:30am till 5pm

Mon thru Fri closed 2pm till 3pm

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OJ's New Hours

O.J.'s will be open 9 till 5 Mon-Sat and Noon till 4 on Sundays. Look for the **Open** flag out front, and a sign on door in case we have to close up for unforeseen reasons.
Thanks again, Tom

Deadline for February News: Jan. 30th
Make A Note: Patsy Pennington is the person to contact if you want to use the Center. Patsy's number is 635-5568

Please Slow Down, Enjoy the Ride

Remember, our roads aren't designed for the amount of traffic they carry these days. I'm sure many of you have been going down the road and find an oncoming vehicle across the center line.

Don't forget school is back in session so watch for the kids and their big yellow bus

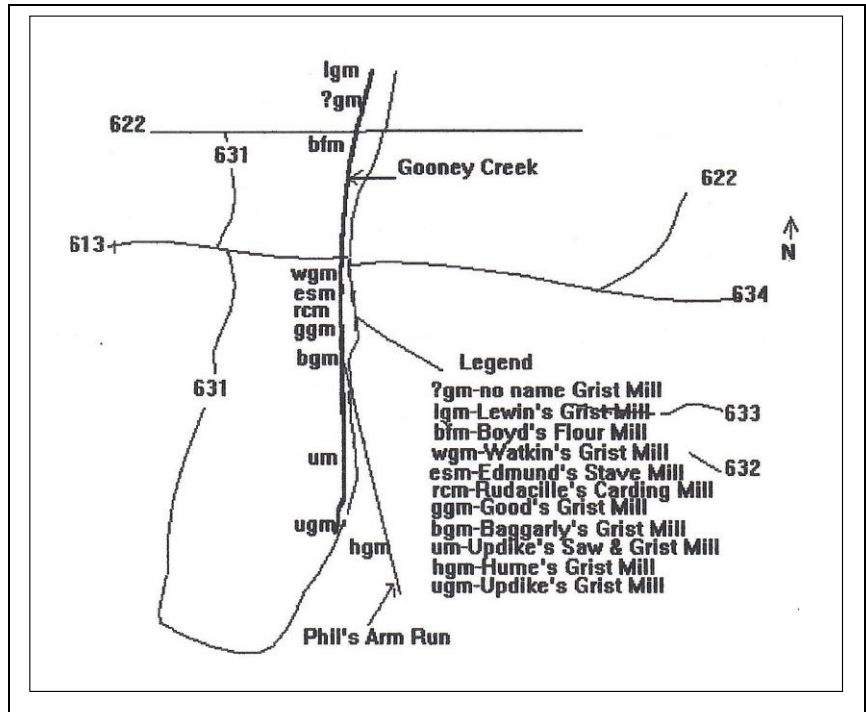
The Gooney Valley History Club

*"Remembering Yesterday,
Preserving Our Tomorrow"*

This Month:

"Mills Along The Gooney"

This story originally
appeared in the February
1997 issue of
"Along the Gooney"



In writing of "Mills along the Gooney", I am using many sources. First comes a letter from Lloyd Jennings. Mr. Jennings was born in Browntown and at the age of 85 decided to write to the Warren Sentinel. His letter printed in 1897 told of many the things he had experienced. In 1962 a similiar article appeared in the Sentinel, written by Mrs. Fred Hurt. She mentions that around the turn of the century Browntown had a barrel stave mill, a saw mill and several grist mills. Conversations with Becky Poe, George Baggerly, Sam Updike, Ken Poe and Giles Nossett have filled in many blanks, so that I believe the above map is fairly accurate. According to Mr. Jennings, early in the 1800's a Mr. John Horn, millright, built a merchant mill for manufacturing flour. In 1897 it was still being operated and was owned by Mr. Lloyd Watkins. Mrs. Hurt calls it a grist mill and gives the impression that it was near Browntown. According to Becky Poe this was the Abraham Brown mill located near Linda Carr's house. All mills, except for one used mill races. These mills could only operate when the creek was up. The Updike mill had a pond, this reservoir enabled it to operate during dry times. This mill which is currently being restored by E.J. Dryer has a grist mill and "up and down saw", one of only two in the state. One like it is in a Richmond museum. With any luck this mill will be operational again by summer. There was another Updike Grist mill above the Cool Spring Church, this one run by Dr. Updike's parents Franklin and Euelina(Aunt Duck). These folks were born about

1830, so I figure the mill was in operation late in that century. The Edmonds Stave mill was built at about the turn of this century and was still being used in the production of barrels up until 1924. The Baggarly mill which stood across from the Dryer's blue farm house, (Charles Newt Baggarly's) was in service until possibly 1930. Originally this mill was known as Hez Brown's. Good's mill is on or near the site of Marcellus Rudacille's wool carding and grist mill which operated in the mid-1800's. Good's operated from the late 1800's til early in this century. The two earliest grist mills operated in the late 1700's. One was the Thomas Hume's mill on Phil's Arm Run, the other Lewin's mill North of Gooney Lodge. We think this mill was near "Round Rock", by the Gorge. Ken remembers his dad referring to the mill lot field near there. Supposedly Mr. Lewin liked a drink and while constructing the race would place a bottle down stream. When he had worked his way to that point it was time for a snort. There may have also been one more mill close to Gooney Lodge. If anyone has information about these or any other local mills, give us a call. Grist mills ground corn, wheat, rye, buckwheat. Women would sift the course "mountain flour" to remove the bran and other hard parts. The flour mills were equipped to extrarefine the product. Mills became village centers as after bringing in your grain there was a wait before the millstone had done its job.

2022 Browntown Christmas Tree Lights & Snowflakes

This was the 12th year for *lighting the Christmas tree* at the Community Center. Many people made donations in memory of their loved ones this year. We had 162 names; with additional donations; the total was \$810.

The snowflakes were placed on the BCCA hallway bulletin board, this year, and looked so pretty with all the names.

Special thanks to Allan and Linda Brockway for putting up the lights on the outside tree and fence line.

Sponsor	Name of Loved One	Sponsor	Name of Loved One
Sherry & Thomas Thorpe Jr.	Thomas F. Thorpe Sr.	George & Jackie Hodgkiss	Oliver M. Hodgkiss
	Maria Thorpe		Helen Hodgkiss Conner
	Charles H. Shirley Sr.		Stella Frew
	Gloria Livingston		Edwin Graves
	Susan E. Britten	Diane Pence	MarvinPense
	Charles H. Shirley Jr.		Stanley Baggary
	John A. Catlett Jr.		Mary Baggary
	Jerry Gray Sr.		Osborne Baggary
	Ralph R, Byrd III		Mike Reardon
	John F. Shirley		Brad Baggary
Alice Grumbly	Vernon K. Grumbly		Charles H. Baggary
	Bill Poe		Mollie Baggary
	Ruby D. Poe		W. J. Pence
	Rebecca Poe		Inge Pence
	Jean Poe		Bruce Baggary
	Kenneth Poe		Georgianna Baggary
	Elizabeth Poe	Sandy Frame	Milton W. Frame
	Thom Miller		Ashby T. Jones
	Don Miller		Beatrice M. FRamw
	Pat Poe Miller		Wilford G. Frame
	George W. Poe		Lebert E. Morris
	Sam Poe	Giles & Charlotte Partlowe	Sam Hallman
Katherine Clegg Cropper & Steven Cropper	Richard Henry		Odessa Hallman
	Carrie Darr Henry		Albert Hallman
	Ulysses (Sonny) Clegg Sr.		Gladys Powell
	Geraldine Henry Clegg		Daniel "Buck" Hallman
	Eddie Lynn Clegg		Jreta Hallman
	Ulysses (Junior) Clegg Jr.		Roy Hallman
	Betty Albernathy Clegg		Michael Hallman
	William Ronnie Clegg		Dorothy Nicholson
	Ginger Clegg Reardon		Edward Nicholson
Louise Mathews	Jerry Mathews		Giles B. Partlowe
	Kenneth Mathews		Emma Partlowe
	Mildred Mathews		Elsie Berry
	Bobby Williams		Royce Berry
	Alice Williams		Randall "Bootsie" Berry
	Timmy Williams		Paul Berry
	Marie Williams		Wanda Sheitzer
	Herman Williams		James Cason
Betty Wolf	Roger Wolf		Phillip Jones
	Debbie Johnson		Ginny Jones
	Harry Deavers Sr.,	Mary McLaughlin	George McLaughlin
	Harry Deavers Jr.		Albert & Ester McLaughlin
	Vallie Deavers		Ruth Bader Ginsburg
	Patricia Deavers		Tim Johnson
	Harry Deavers III		Eva Mae Compton
	John Deavers		Dixie Engelhaupt
			Gamby & Babay McLaughlin

Sponsor	Name of Loved One	Sponsor	Name of Loved One
Linda Glavis	Margo Glavis	Ricky & Daris Mathews	Wilson Henry
	Vernon K. Grumbly		Clemmie Henry
	Patricia Poe Miller		Wayne Henry
	Don Miller		Jerry Mathews
	Tom Miller		Ronnie Frame
	Barbara Poe		Kenneth Mathews
	Elizabeth Poe		Mildred Mathews
	Jesse W. Poe	Nancy Deavers	Donnie Deavers
	Jean Poe		Randy Deavers
	Kenneth Poe		Walter Thomas
	Rebecca Poe		Irene Thomas
	Ray Smelser		Ginger Reardon
	George Poe		Michael Reardon Sr.
	Sam Poe		Glenn Pruitt
Lorraine Smelser	Ray Smelser		Bettie Mae Hughes
	Louie Smelser		Mary Lockhart
	Lizzie Smelser		Paul Thomas
	Billy Smeltzer		Roger Wolf
	Elizabeth Poe	Bruce Colton	Jimmy Colton
	Jessie Poe		Robert Colton
	Tara Poe		Wanda Colton
	Barbara Poe		Hollis Manuel
	Patricia Miller		Corey Alles
	Don Miller	Denny & Patsy Pennington	Kimberly Dawn Pennington
	Tom Miller		Betty Pennington
	Kenneth Poe		Ersel Pennington
	Vernon Grumbly		Philip Pennington
	Rebeca Poe		Karen Jenkins
	Jean Poe		Richard Jenkins, Sr.
	Connie Jenkins		Delbert Jenkins
	George W. Poe		Robert Pennington Sr.
	Sam Poe		Bobby Jenkins
Betty Shannon	Edna Shannon	Robert Harding	Henry F. Harding
	Nicholas Shannon Sr.		Dale S. Harding
	Nicholas Shannon Jr.		Christopher Reed Harding
	Dena Shannon		Louis S. Nixdorff
			Annie Byrd Nixdorff

BCCA Rental Fee and Agreement.

Any Browntown organization, group, or individual using the Center shall pre-pay \$100.00, (\$75.00 usage fee and \$25.00 refundable security deposit), and shall sign the *BCCA Facilities Use Agreement*.

Any organization or individual outside of the Browntown Area shall pre-pay \$150.00, (\$125.00 usage fee and \$25.00 refundable security deposit), and shall sign the *BCCA Facilities Use Agreement*.

No alcohol Permitted!

To rent the center:

Call Patsy Pennington at 540-635-5568

For all reservations applicant must fill out the *BCCA Facilities Use Agreement* and payment must be made 2 weeks prior to renting the Center.

Patsy will send you a copy of the reservations as soon as she has confirmed the Center is available.

Note: If we have not received your application, you will lose your reservation date.

BEARR GROUP UPDATE --- JANUARY, 2023
BROWNTOWN'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RISK REDUCTION GROUP
"KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE"

The BEARR GROUP IS NOW ONLINE!

Help to spread the word about the BEARR Group by "liking" and "following" our social media sites and signing up for our newsletter at BEARRGroup.com

- Facebook:** BEARR Group
- Instagram:** @bearr_group
- Twitter:** @bearr_group



HOW TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ROAD ACCIDENTS IN OUR AREA

In 2023 this issue will be a top priority for the BEARR Group:

- Have you been involved in an accident or had a "near miss" experience?
- What concerns you most?
- What do you think would help the most to reduce the risk of accidents?

Speed bumps? Chokers? Rumble Strips? Lower Speed limits?

We would love to hear about both your concerns and your ideas

Please email Mark Koszyk at twoturtles327@comcast.net



BECOME A VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTER – HELP ENSURE THAT THE BROWNTOWN FIRE SUB-STATION WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE OUR NEEDS.

For more information please contact Allan Brockway, Assistant Fire Chief, South Warren Volunteer Fire Department, at 540 635 7783.



911 REFLECTIVE SIGNS — HAVE YOU GOT YOURS YET?

WHY NOT ORDER ONE FOR A NEIGHBOR OR FRIEND!

Over 160 of your friends and neighbors have purchased their **blue reflective address sign**. These signs are invaluable to first responders when trying to find your house in an emergency. Next time you drive down your road at night, look to see how many signs are clearly visible, **from both sides**.

Make sure **yours** will be one of them — it could mean the difference between life and death! \$25 (payable on delivery) is a cheap price to pay for peace of mind.

Sign up online now at BEARRGroup.com. Alternatively, please email Chris Lewis at chris@BEARRGroup.com or call him at 540-313-6185.





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The Browntown Redbud Festival

Saturday, April 22nd

If anyone would like to volunteer to help, please call Martha Buracker. This event takes a lot of volunteers so any help would be greatly appreciated.

- Duck Race
- Silent Auction
- Crafters
- Entertainment
- Parking
- Antique Car Show
- Photo contest for the 2024 Calendar
- Outside Hot Dogs and Pop Corn
- Redbud and Dogwood Trees
- Kitchen



Weichert REALTORS

Martha Buracker, Realtor

540-671-6349 CELL

540-635-8000 OFC

Buracker@gmail.com

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FEBRUARY 13, 1912

Browntown Letter.

Mr. Hufman is installing a gasoline Engine for Mr. Jacob Masemer to run his grist mill.

John R. Poe is clearing another large tract of land to plant an orchard on.

Mr. Edgar Rudacille had the misfortune to have one of his mules crippled one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Rudacille, Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Poe, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Rudacille, and S. B. Thornhill were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Poe last Sunday.

John K. Marlow and bride visited Mrs. Marlow's old home last Saturday.

The people would be in bad shape if Browntown neighborhood could not furnish them feed for their stock.

Mrs. Ida Shenk gave the young people of Browntown a delightful party Valentine night.

The Stork flew over some time this week and left Mr. and Mrs. Singleton Rudacille a daughter.

A Friend.

History is Full of Surprises, Which Lead to More Questions

A few months ago the Gooney Valley History Club was alerted to a report on Browntown done in 1929, which was at UVA. Brian Wilkinson went down and copied that report, which has about 13 photos. One of which is the K.D. Updike Mill, below, which may be the gasoline operated Jacob Masemer Grist Mill mentioned in the article to the left. K.D. "Keene" Updike ran OJ's in the early 30's, and this photo would suggest he was running two businesses at the time.

