

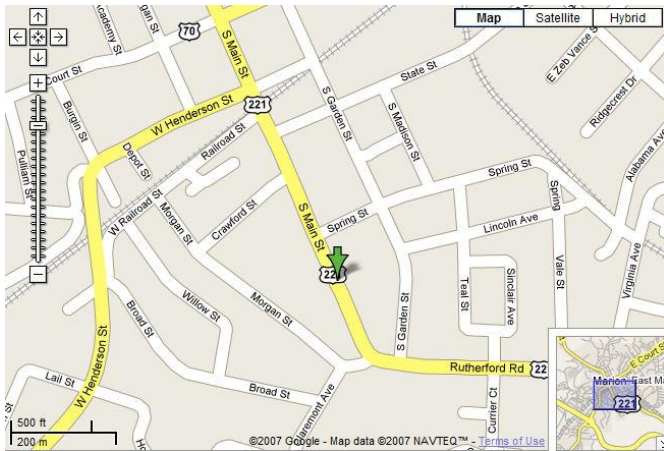
Mountain News

Issue 2

December 2007

January Meeting

The meeting will be held Saturday, January 26th 2008 at 1 p.m., at St. John's Episcopal Church Community Center at 339 South Main Street in Marion.



Please plan on attending this important meeting. Discussion topics for this meeting are included in this newsletter.

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JANUARY MEETING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Treasury report
- Update of ongoing projects
 - Water tank for fire emergencies
 - Dead tree removal & kudzu abatement
 - Proposed changes to the POA By-laws
 - **ANYTHING ELSE?**
- Road Proposal Presentation & Discussion

Road Proposal Overview

In 2006, a survey was sent to all Grants Mtn. POA members. Survey results indicated nearly 70% of those responding want to pave the roads. Based upon this feedback, along with the escalating costs of maintaining the gravel road, the Board obtained several competitive quotes to repair and pave the road. During the meeting, the road proposal presentation will review:

1. the continuing erosion and current conditions of the road
2. the escalating costs to maintain and repair the existing gravel road
3. the benefits of paving the road
4. the proposed cost to pave the road
5. the voting and decision process for the road paving proposal

Please plan to attend this important meeting. The voting process will be reviewed and ballots will be distributed at the January meeting.

EVENTS ON THE MOUNTAIN

Current Road Conditions

The road continues to need regular maintenance. Every rainstorm results in more erosion, creating multiple ruts causing a washboard effect and deep channels in the road, especially on steep sections and areas where the road has inadequate cross slope. Also, several sections need new gravel to prevent further erosion of the roadbed. Some of the larger drainage culverts need repair due to damage from vehicles running too close to the edge of the road and crushing the drainage pipes. Also, road ditches need regular cleaning to enable effective drainage to minimize further erosion. Maintenance costs are escalating due to rising oil prices, and the continued degradation of the road. These escalating costs and increasing maintenance requirements are a major concern due to the limited funds available to maintain the roads. Required road maintenance and alternatives to help control future costs will be discussed at the January meeting.

New Homes on Grants Mountain

Two new log homes are under construction. Both homeowners plan to have their log shell and "dry-in" complete by the end of the year. We look forward to welcoming the Messners and the Summers as full-time residents of Grants Mountain once their new homes are finished.

Dead Tree Removal

Thank you to the owners who have removed dead trees near the road. Removing these trees ensures the safety of our community, especially as we enter the high wind and icy winter season. Last winter, several dead trees fell on the road completely blocking passage for vehicles. Proactive removal of these trees will help prevent this situation from reoccurring. All property owners are responsible for removing any limbs and dead trees that fall from their property onto the road or into the roadside drainage ditches.

