

8/5/08 Meeting Notes

Tuesday, Aug. 5, 7:00 p.m. at El Jimador, 91 W. Main St, Dahlonega, 706-864-9152
Recorded by Donna Shearer, Secretary.

In Attendance: Forest Hilyer, Basil & Kelly Bonner, Mark & Donna Shearer, Larry Winslett, Judy Lynn, Tim & Vicki Herrin, Kim Laramore, Kristen Jordan, Katie Jamiek, Murray Lamb, Bob Billings, Jack & Patty Rogers, Randy Rick, Ginger Clark

Appointments Confirmed by Group

- ✳️ Kristen Jordan - Treasurer. Date established to set up bank signature.
- ✳️ Nancy Hilyer - Records & Archives
- ✳️ Donna Shearer - Secretary & LC Web Site

Financial Update

- ✳️ **Current Status** -- Funds on hand = \$5,000.
- ✳️ **Disbursements** -- Checks signed for reimbursement of Tim Herrin (puppet project), for \$110 Chamber of Commerce membership (approved by group), and for Hoots and Hellmouth per contract.
- ✳️ **Grants** -- We are really trying to move into the grant writing phase of fund raising and have some great folks helping us out and a phenomenal volunteer effort going into it. Thank you Nancy Hilyer for all the time/energy you are putting into this and to all the folks you have pulled together! It is very possible that this could end up paying off more for next year than this.
- ✳️ **Fundraising** -- Time for ramp up our fundraising efforts and be actively seeking HemlockFest sponsors and donations; will establish plan to cast net beyond local area.

HemlockFest Update

- ✳️ **Promotional Materials** -- 1,000 posters and 15,000 flyers will be ready shortly for distribution. Also, 700 postcards including mention about HemlockFest were recently sent out by Sierra Club, Georgia Chapter (thank you, Larry Winslett).
- ✳️ **Merchandise** -- Beer and wine containers w/HemlockFest logo will be added this year. T-shirt design is being enhanced with a hemlock bough (maybe an adelgid too) by Mark Warren.
- ✳️ **Puppet Show** -- Bob Billings and the puppet team are currently putting together/organizing an awesome puppet show to help spread the word about our endangered hemlocks. He reported that the set is under production, and artists are needed for painting. Judy Lynn demonstrated several of the stick puppets and hand puppets that will be used and treated the group to some original music she composed for the show. Bob will set a date for volunteers to gather at his house for a cookout/campout to make several large puppets. Ideas and assistance are welcome

from all those who wish to be a part of this fun project -- please contact Bob at suebob30531@yahoo.com.

- ✳ **Signs** -- Murray (designer extraordinaire) is revising road signs design for greater legibility, as they must be posted 12' above the ground. Locations of 6 road signs will be determined within the next week (Forest, Donna, Kelly), and Donna will obtain sign permits from Planning Office.
- ✳ **Movies** -- Murray reported that Tom Lamb is working on obtaining permits for kid-friendly movies to show at festival. Should include some very enjoyable selections. Thanks, Tom!
- ✳ **Children's Day** -- Hemlockfest will have a kid's day component this year during the school day on Friday, Nov. 7. Ideas, connections, and participation are sought and welcome! Ginger Clark and Liza O'Neal have been working hard on this project already! Thank you Ginger, Liza, Jerry Hightower, and Judy Toppins. Stay tuned for more on this.
- ✳ **Sound** -- Bob Quigley will do the honors again this year. Thank you, Bob!
- ✳ **Starbridge Projects** -- Need plans and volunteers for projects to build a temp electric pole with 220 option for food vendors and rig a tarp mechanism for main field. Reseeding of lawn completed.

LC Committee Heads

- ✳ Puppet show -- Bob Billings
- ✳ Fundraising committee - Nancy Hilyer
- ✳ Wood collecting/splitting -- Basil Bonner
- ✳ Publicity -- Randy Rick
- ✳ Vending and silent auction --Neville Harris
- ✳ Band/green tent hostess with the mostess -- Carolyn Fletcher
- ✳ Trash/recycling -- Larry Winslett
- ✳ Water monitoring -- Darcie Holcomb
- ✳ River clean-up -- Joe Adams and Elvin Hilyer
- ✳ Signs -- Donna Shearer
- ✳ Movies -- Tom Lamb
- ✳ T-shirts -- Tom Lamb

New Web Site

- ✳ Donna Shearer has launched the new LC web site (www.lumpkincoalition.org) and will maintain it. Feedback, updates, and/or corrections are sought and welcome. (You may send e-mail to her at markshearer@windstream.net or to forest@lumpkincoalition.org.)
- ✳ Randy Rick will continue to maintain LC's MySpace page (www.myspace.com/hemlockfest) as an alternate path to HemlockFest information. The two sites are cross-linked and will be kept in sync.
- ✳ Thank you, Murray, for all your hard web site work over the past years.

Upcoming Events -- Volunteers Needed

- ✳ **Lucky Ducky Derby** -- Camp Glisson, Saturday, Aug. 16, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(Contact Randy Rick steyrhahn@yahoo.com)
- ✳ **Tree Hug Fest** -- Nature Center in Dunwoody, Sunday, Oct 12, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
(Contact Forest Hilyer forest@lumpkincoalition.org)
- ✳ **NGCSU Service Learning Project** -- North Georgia has launched a series of Service Learning Projects, one of which will center on the hemlocks. It is envisioned as a YouTube production, and LC volunteers are sought to help with the content and presentation. More to come on this.

Important Dates **(new in red)**

More will be added, but please mark your calendars with these for now.

- Sep. 2 LC meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Aug. 16 Lucky Ducky Derby at Camp Glisson (set up at 10:00 a.m., over at 2:00 p.m.)**
- Oct. 7 LC meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 12 Tree Hug Fest in Dunwoody (11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.)**
- Oct. 18 & 19 Gold Rush weekend in Dahlonega
- Nov. 4 LC meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 7-9 HemlockFest!!
- Nov. 22 HemlockFest follow-up potluck party and review at Hilyer house
- Dec. 2 Last LC meeting of the year 7:00 p.m.