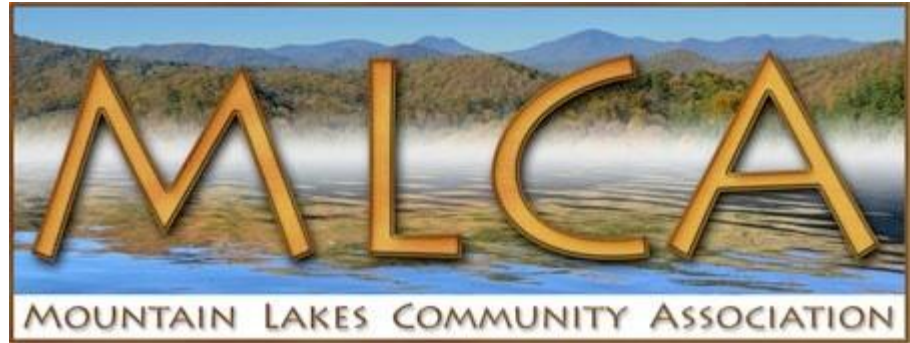


In Touch



October 20, 2011

Volume 1, Number 2

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MLCA Board

Sharon Hamilton
President

Gary Savercool, Vice
President & Secretary

Ron Sparling, Treasurer

Ed Harms

Chuck Lovelace

Jack Makuch

Dave Mead

Don Owen

Bob Royer

Terry Swanson

George Taylor

MLCA General Meeting November 8, 7:00 PM

Mountain Lakes Community Association invites and encourages you and members of your communities to attend our upcoming general membership meeting to be held Tuesday, November 8, 7 PM in the Commons Room at St. Mark Methodist Church, 616 Quincy Road in Seneca. **The YMCA Comes To Seneca - What It Means For You** is the subject for our featured speaker. MLCA will also provide updates on radon in your home, water management issues, and legislation affecting homeowners. Light refreshments will be served. Log on to www.mlcasc.com to learn more.

State Legislation: We have it covered!



The board held two important meetings this fall to learn and give input on state legislative matters affecting our members. We appreciate the time that Bill Sandifer (*pictured at left with Sharon Hamilton*) and Kevin McCracken took to meet with us. We take monitoring state matters seriously, especially as they relate to owners associations. MLCA will keep you updated and informed on important legislative matters affecting your communities.

Representative Bill Sandifer

On October 12 the MLCA Board met with Representative Bill Sandifer to discuss future bills, the legislative process, and funding matters. We were pleased to learn that Homeowner Association governance is not really addressed in SC law, and problems are resolved by the court system. The board feels that local control of HOA's/POA's is vital. Rep. Sandifer also indicated that a bill to allow developers to collect transfer fees on real estate sales has virtually no chance of passing. To our great satisfaction we heard

Doug Young

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that Senate Bill 30/218 is dead. South Carolina requires an annual balanced budget, so the implication of the state budget falling from 7 billion to 5 billion was a major discussion topic.

SC-LAC member Kevin McCracken

In September we met with Kevin McCracken, a member of the South Carolina Legislative Action Committee (SC-LAC) that operates with Community Associations Institute (CAI). We have strongly supported this committee and its efforts to protect owners associations. Kevin discussed the successful dollar-per-lot campaign that allowed SC-LAC to hire a lobbyist. Several of our member associations participated in this effort. Thank you! Kevin discussed a number of legislative bills either pending or possible that have been proposed including the Super-Lien bill (passed in 16 other states, and Washington DC) that will allow HOA's to recoup at least 6 months dues in the case of foreclosures.

Board Supports OLLI Program



Board members from Clemson University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) met with the MLCA Board to expand awareness of that fine program. Several MLCA Board members have either taken or taught courses at OLLI. The OLLI program is an approved institute in the University's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management Department. Membership in OLLI is only \$15 per year and it comes with many perks such as library privileges at the University. OLLI has just completed its new building (*picture at left*) at Patrick Square. For more information the OLLI website can be accessed at <http://www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/olli/>.

Got Questions? We'll Find Answers

Is your association in a quandary over an issue? Perhaps MLCA can help. That's what we're here for. Over the past three years we have conducted surveys, put associations in touch with each other, and made specific suggestions regarding a number of neighborhood matters. We stay in touch

with our legislators and are proactive when we learn of pending legislation that can negatively affect homeowners and homeowners associations. We also continue to monitor items such as the sewer and DHEC permits to stay aware of any large developments planned for the area during the early planning stages. Our surveys can be found at our web site www.mlcasc.com, or just click any topic below and be taken there instantly.

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