





# SHERWOOD FOREST FRIENDS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023




In 2023, SFF continued to be guided by our mission statement of conservation of land and preservation of our mountain culture. Here are the highlights of our year:


 Acquired lot SAT VI near the tennis courts as a donation from Etk White and will turn it over to the SFHA to be kept undeveloped when membership approves the resolution

 Awarded the Greg Allikas Scholarship of \$4000 to the Transylvania Arts Council for use in their Summer Art Camp for young people.


 Renewed an annual grant of \$500 to Nature Nuts in honor of Bill and Shirl Thomas to be used for programming.


 Hosted the 2023 Summer Series in the Robin Hood Barn


- Over 350 visitors attended all the events, coming from SF, Cedar Mt, Brevard and places in between! The audiences learned about the history of the “Brevard Music Center, Then and Now;” Sharyn McCrumb’s meticulous historical research in her writing about Appalachia; the Flood of 1916 through David Weintraub’s documentary “Come Hell or High Water;” ; enjoyed a square dance with the Cedar Mountain Shoo Fly dancers; and a night of musical history from our local talents! For the first time having 2 internationally recognized artists in McCrumb and Wientraub made for an exciting summer!
- Over 30 merchants donated enough goods and services to fill two raffle baskets this year, bringing in over \$1,000 to our scholarship fund.


 Celebrated **Earth Day**, our [annual membership renewal date](#)


- Hosted a program in the barn about the Ecusta Trail presented by Frank Porter, a member of the board of directors of the Friends of the Ecusta Trail.
- Donated to the purchase of wildflowers to be planted on the golf course.
- Hosted an exhibit of Greg Allikas’ photography at the Cedar Mt Community Center where over \$10,000 was donated to the scholarship fund.


 Applied for a grant to build a third Swift Tower. The area around the towers will now be managed by an Arboretum Committee, chaired by Connie Mero.

 Donated to the scholarship fund in the memory of SF members who have died and in honor of the Trails committee, in this Year of The Trail in NC.

 Donated money for a table to be used in the renovated RHC; donated a sound system to the HOA for use in the barn.

 Continued to produce our quarterly newsletter

 Strengthened relationships between SFF and organizations in SF, as well as organizations outside the Forest (Cedar Mt Community Center, Transylvania Arts Council, merchants in Brevard and Cedar Mt) expanding our footprint as a non-profit.

 SFF entered the 2023 NIA Nonprofit Photo Contest with a photo that expresses what we do. Our entry is a beautiful photo in the barn at one of the Summer Series events.

Your vote can help SFF win a cash prize!

- Go to [insurancefor nonprofits.org/photo-contest/](https://insurancefor nonprofits.org/photo-contest/)
- Scroll through the pictures until you see the photo on the left (it is many rows into the contest)
- Highlight the photo and vote.
- Each person can vote 1 time between Nov 6<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>



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