



# Red Bird Report

February 2019

Here we are in the middle of winter. It is cold outside and gloomy inside. The days are short and the sunshine is weak... so why is it that the month of February has only 28 days?

Checking with the Romans, under **Julius Caesar**, the year was 46 BCE. That year had 446 days in it. The calendar was subject to change by the prophets. It was a mess. So **Julius** realigned the calendar with the sun to a year of 365 days. The extra  $\frac{1}{4}$  day was given to February every 4 years. I have been told that it is the shortest month because it is the coldest and the people wanted to get to March and Spring as soon as they could. *At least, that is what I have been told!!!*

The **rainfall** records from the Gorges State Park indicate that we had over **146 inches** in 2018. That is a lot of water. The Month of January this year seems to be setting its own record for number of days of very cold temperatures. Let's hope that February lives up to its name and rushes past into Spring and a return to our beautiful lake and the warmth of the friendships of Lake Toxaway.

The **birthstone** for February is the **amethyst**, a variety of the quartz stone family. Its main color is purple but the range is from a spectacular deep purple through violet to deep red and lilac. It is a lovely stone and makes a wonderful gift.

## Words of wisdom from a Texas State House Speaker:

"This is unparalyzed in state history"

"Let's do this in one foul sweep"

"I want to thank each and every one of you for having extinguished yourselves this session"

February has one FLAG DAY, the 19<sup>th</sup> which has been designated as Presidents Day. It combines the birthdays of Lincoln on the 12<sup>th</sup> and Washington on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

February enjoys the anniversary of eight of our national parks: from 100 years – Grand Canyon National Park to 124 years for the Gettysburg National Military Park. We also celebrate the Groundhog on February 2 and lovers on Valentine's Day, the 14<sup>th</sup>.

## From our well known Mixed Up Medical Dictionary:

Terminal illness – Getting sick at the airport

Bowel – Letters like A, E, I, O, and U

Nitrate – Cheaper than DAY RATE



*Continued from page 1:*

On a sad note... Bill Minnich passed away in January. Bill was a past president of your Lake Tox-away Community Association. He also participated in numerous civic, social and fund raising activities.

I first met and became well acquainted with Bill when we attended a fitness class at our Fitness Center. The instructor wanted us to do an exercise where we each needed the help of another person. The instruction was... "Grab your partner" ... where upon Bill and I each wrapped our arms around the other and laughed. We did that nearly every other time we met and enjoyed a little private moment of fun and friendship.

I will miss Bill...he was my friend...he was a good man.

**Stay well!**

**Be a friend!**

**Be helpful to others!**

Don Molitor



## **FOUND ITEMS**

Our staff has found some items that we would like to return to the owners. If these items are yours, please call Captain Brian Kreigsman at 828-989-0402 or email [brian.kreigsman@aus.com](mailto:brian.kreigsman@aus.com). To claim, just provide enough identifying information about the item(s) and then sign a form acknowledging receipt.

1- A Drone

2- A Tackle Box and set of keys

If you are missing something and would like for us to watch for it, please let us know.



## Update from the Toxaway Business Alliance

The Toxaway Business Alliance held its first official meeting January 9, 2019 at the Historic Toxaway Market and Blessed Beyond Measure Gallery, with owners Chris and Robin Pickel graciously hosting and refreshments provided by the Historic Toxaway Foundation.

Eighteen local business leaders attended, and there was enthusiastic discussion focused on our vision, the needs of our community, and collective efforts to build a thriving year round economy in the Historic Toxaway area, reaching from Highway 215 in Rosman to Sapphire.

There was an encouraging exchange of ideas, as we further discussed volunteer opportunities and plans to publish a printed community calendar of events and directory of local businesses to be distributed throughout the community beginning in March. Another key topic was targeted social media outreach to increase awareness of what our storied community has to offer and to give visitors a reason to stay and play in Historic Toxaway. The Toxaway Business Alliance will focus upcoming meetings on supporting our local business owners in the best use of internet marketing as we prepare for future growth.

The next meeting will be February 7 at the Greystone Inn. The Toxaway Business Alliance is an outreach initiative of the Historic Toxaway Foundation with strong support from the Brevard/Transylvania Chamber of Commerce and the Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce.





# Brevard College Friends of the Fine Arts Gala Weekend

## **March 30, 6:00 p.m. 9th Annual Fine Arts Gala**

A yearly celebration of Brevard College Fine Arts students and programs! “Funds raised at this wonderful event go toward expanding experiential educational opportunities that transform the lives of our students,” states Lynne Joyce, Gala co-chair. Patrons have the opportunity to participate in live and silent auctions, fund a special student experience, enjoy gourmet food and entertainment.

Tickets to the Gala are \$100 each (tax-deductible up to \$50) for the general public. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.brevardcollege.eventbrite.com](http://www.brevardcollege.eventbrite.com) or by calling 828.884.8218. You can also stop by the Office Alumni Affairs and Development located at 18 Alumni Drive on the Brevard College Campus for more information or to purchase tickets.

## **March 31, 3:00 p.m. Calidore String Quartet**

Brevard College presents The Calidore String Quartet at the Porter Center for Performing Arts. The Calidore String Quartet’s “deep reserves of virtuosity and irrepressible dramatic instinct” (New York Times) and “balance of intellect and expression” (Los Angeles Times) have won them accolades around the globe and firmly established them as one of the finest chamber music ensembles performing today.

The Calidore String Quartet – violinists Jeffrey Myers and Ryan Meehan, violist Jeremy Berry, and cellist Estelle Choi – has enjoyed an impressive number of accolades, including a 2018 Avery Fisher Career Grant, and the 2017 Lincoln Center Emerging Artist Award. The Calidore made international headlines as winner of the \$100,000 Grand-Prize of the 2016 M-Prize International Chamber Music Competition, the largest prize for chamber music in the world.

Tickets are on sale now! General admission: \$20; free to students with ID. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.brevardcollege.eventbrite.com](http://www.brevardcollege.eventbrite.com) or an hour before the concert at the Porter Center Box Office.



SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS RESERVE

# Volunteers of the Year



## SHR HONORS OUR VOLUNTEERS

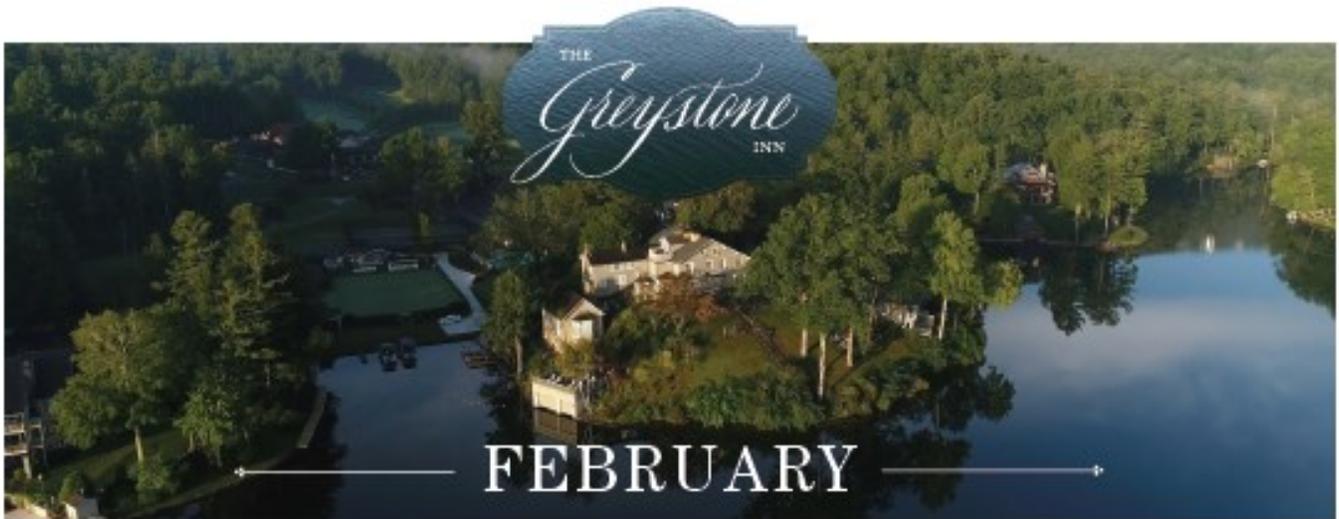
for valuable and selfless dedication and contribution to our mission!

**THE 2018 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD WAS A TIE!**

We are pleased to recognize Molly Tartt of Brevard, NC  
and Paul Cooper of Lake Toxaway, NC.

We are so grateful to all volunteers who helped us make 2018  
a successful year!

All visits to the Reserve are guided and require reservations. | To reserve, visit [southernhighlandsreserve.org/tours](https://southernhighlandsreserve.org/tours).  
To learn about becoming a volunteer, contact [info@southernhighlandsreserve.org](mailto:info@southernhighlandsreserve.org).



## VALENTINE'S GIFT CERTIFICATES

Searching for the best gift for that special someone for Valentine's Day? Give them a Greystone gift card for a romantic, relaxing experience. Our gift cards may be used in our Restaurant, Spa, and Hotel, and are sure to put a smile on their face.



## VALENTINE'S ESCAPE + VALENTINE'S DINNER THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>

Escape to the romance of The Greystone Inn with this wonderful weekend Valentines Package. Enjoy a two-night stay, Godiva chocolate martini upon arrival and a cooked to order breakfast each morning.  
*Rates starting at \$140 per night. Two-night stay required*

Valentine's Dinner • Thursday February 14th  
*\$65 per person, four courses*  
*Please call 828.966.4700 to reserve*

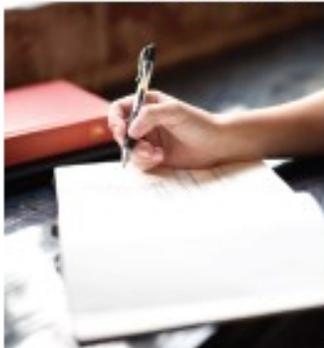


## MARDI GRAS IN THE MOUNTAINS TUESDAY, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>

*Please call The Greystone Inn to book at  
828-966-4700.*

Celebrate 'Fat Tuesday' with masquerade, music and Chef Jaime's down-home Louisiana cuisine.

Jaime's down-home Louisiana cuisine starts at 6pm  
Live jazz band starting at 7pm  
*Mardi Gras Chic*  
*\$45 per person*



## WRITING WORKSHOP MARCH 1-3<sup>RD</sup>

*Featuring:*  
*Debra Stoker - International best-selling author of Dracula the Un-Dead and Dracul*  
*Leverett Bittis - Award-winning author of the Guns of the Waste Land series*

*Please call The Greystone Inn to book at  
828-966-4700.*

The Greystone's peaceful environment, folklore & rich history inspires creativity. This writer's workshop has been created to appeal to the novice or aspiring writer who is interested in learning to write in a wide variety of genres. Let the stories of best-selling authors motivate you with this opportunity to improve your writing and develop your ideas.  
*Room rates starting at \$125 per night (2-night min).*  
*Arrive early or stay later starting at \$99 per night.*

**THREE DAY WRITERS WORKSHOP**  
**\$250 per participant staying at The Greystone Inn**  
**\$300 per participant not staying at The Greystone**



## YOGA RENEWAL RETREAT All levels welcome MARCH 8-10<sup>TH</sup>

*Please call The Greystone Inn to book at  
828-966-4700. This retreat will sell out.*

Our 3-day yoga experience filled with mindfulness, movement & nourishment will rejuvenate your mind, body & soul. Disconnect & reflect in the beauty of the mountains on our peaceful shores & dedicate 2 nights/3 days to you.  
*Room rates starting at \$125 per night (2-night min.)*  
*Arrive early or stay later starting at \$99 per night.*

**THREE DAY YOGA EXPERIENCE**  
**\$450 per participant staying at The Greystone Inn**  
**\$500 per participant not staying at The Greystone**