

NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE

WHEN: SATURDAY, MAY 13th

TIME: 8:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

CONTACT: SUZANNE KLONIS IF YOU
PLAN TO PARTICIPATE:

sklonis@gmail.com

What a GREAT opportunity to get that spring cleaning done!!!

“The Mayor of Malvern Hills”

Linda Baird-Purcell and husband David moved to Malvern Hills in 1990. David, “A Ramblin’ Wreck From Georgia Tech” was an engineer with American Enka and Linda worked as a supervisor with the US Census Bureau. She began her Malvern Hills Community Club journey on the Board of Directors, serving as the Secretary and later, as the Treasurer. Linda and David teamed up to be Co-Presidents, leading the Community Club for eight years. During those years, David and Linda gave us so many accomplishments. She recalls some of the highlights:

- David and Paul Ford worked together surveying and mapping sidewalks and fire hydrants throughout the neighborhood. They mapped all of the cracks in the sidewalks and got them fixed. They also found two places in the community where the fire hydrants were out of compliance. The fix brought two extra fire hydrants to Malvern Hills.
- Back in those days, Malvern Hills was zoned R-8, multifamily zoning. As co-presidents, she and David researched the situation and went to Asheville City Council. They were able to obtain our current R-2, single- family zoning.

- David and Linda started the Community Yard Sale 20 years ago. Linda remembers that everyone participating in those days paid \$1.00. The money was used to place ads in the papers. 25 or 30 houses participated.

- Linda wrote the grant and received \$1500.00 from the City of Asheville for landscaping the triangles. She recalls the grant required 150 volunteer hours for matching funds from the City. About 15 people volunteered to help. Asheville School donated ground-up horse manure and Mack Bennett’s rototillers mixed it in the soil. Many people donated to the garden fund to beautify the triangles. At Christmastime, neighbors gathered for caroling at the triangles.

- Linda, along with Katherine Gunn worked to get Canie Creek certified at wetlands. They collected soil and plant samples to prove the wetland status.
- Stop signs were another issue for neighborhood safety. While Elaine Poovey worked with the City, Linda worked with Asheville City Schools to get our stop signs.

As she talks about Malvern Hills, Linda remembers the kindness of neighbors especially at the time of David’s passing. She and David were married for 32 years. Linda says, “He is survived by his best friend.”

Currently Linda is a Malvern Hills Street Captain and delivers our newsletters. She always keeps up with the happenings in the community and sends thoughtful cards to neighbors as needed. She also volunteers at the Asheville Humane Society and with the Women’s Action Group. Whenever Linda’s name is mentioned around here, someone always says, “Oh, that’s Linda, the Mayor of Malvern Hills.”

