the mountain
HIGHLANDS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

841 Highway 106 **Highlands, NC 28741** **704/526-5838**

Volume IV, No. 4 Wendie Highsmith, Editor November/December 1983

Youth Camp Rates & Dates

We are pleased to announce our 1984 youth camps:

Senior High	June 17-30
Senior High/Work Adventure	July 1-14
7-11 year olds	July 1-14
11-13 year olds	July 15-28 &/or July 29-Aug. 11

The cost for these camps is $385 for two weeks. Although this is an increase over last year, it is still below most other private camps, which range from $400-575 for two weeks. Partial camperships will be available to more campers this year than ever before. If you don't ask, you'll never know if you could have had one! IF YOU WANT TO ASSURE YOUR CHILD(REN) A PLACE IN ONE OF OUR CAMPS THIS SUMMER, YOU MAY SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION FEE ($95) NOW — EVEN BEFORE THE SUMMER BROCHURE IS OUT. Include your name, address, the age of your child, the Fall '84 school grade, and the session(s) preferred. The registration fee is refundable up to 4 weeks prior to camp — what can you lose?!! We are extremely proud of our youth camps and look forward to another great season in '84.

Summer Leadership Training Programs

Mark your calendars now and have money set aside in your church or fellowship budget for the following leadership training programs at THE MOUNTAIN this summer:

RE: Renaissance Program Worship Module and "Holidays & Holy Days" — July 1-7

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL: July 15-21

RE: TEACHER TRAINING/FAMILY WEEK: July 29-August 4

And while you're thinking about your church budget, why not include a scholarship to send a youth to camp!

Jake Haun Appointed Mountain's Fund Raiser

At its recent meeting THE MOUNTAIN Board appointed Jake Haun, Jr., as a year-round coordinator for fund raising efforts. Jake brings with him his ever present enthusiasm and continuity as he and Nancy Suda just finished directing the successful membership drive.

Jake will work with volunteers from our churches and fellowships to bring people to THE MOUNTAIN and to interest them in supporting our efforts. Jake's objective will be to seek out continued funding to pay off the mortgage and insure THE MOUNTAIN'S long range financial stability. To offer your support in any way — organizationally, financially, or otherwise, contact Jake at THE MOUNTAIN, (704) 526-5838, or 841 Highway 106, Highlands, NC 28741.

Elderhostel Programs A Huge Success

We've completed our 14th week of Elderhostel programming and are very pleased with the results. In that time, 525 people attended a program at THE MOUNTAIN, and another 326 people wished they could! With waiting lists like that, we encourage you to *sign up early* for Elderhostel programs that you'd like to attend. For information on how to register for Elderhostel programs, write to them at 100 Boylston St., Suite 200, Boston, MA 02116.

Directors' Corner

Larry
Mo

It has been a very busy fall, and we have delayed our regular commuting back and forth to Atlanta until mid-November. We've enjoyed being at THE MOUNTAIN during this period and look forward even more to our eventually living here year round, which will start next spring.

Thanks to our Fall and Spring Elderhostel programs, we've been able to have the kitchen open seven days a week during the Fall and will start again April 1st. The kitchen will be open on weekends most of the time and during the week when our population is high enough. Our Fall maintenance staff has enabled us to winterize the Program Center for more staff to be at THE MOUNTAIN year round. While Steve and Evelyn Carter are in California this winter, Nancy Suda and Jake Haun will be living in their house. Nancy will be taking reservations at THE MOUNTAIN, so please contact her with questions about reservations. John Hutchison will replace Steve on Maintenance, and Myra Steele will be in charge of the kitchen. Andy Harris will take a month or so off but will be back in January.

We are excited about our winter programs and hope to see many of you at THE MOUNTAIN at this beautiful time of the year. We are looking forward to skiing and especially to our personal vacation week skiing in Colorado! We'll also plan some vacation time to visit Mo's folks in Florida and will do some traveling for PR in the Washington, D.C. area.

We hope you have a wonderful holiday season!



MOUNTAIN FALL STAFF: (Left to Right) Top Row: Mo Wheeler, Larry Wheeler, Sally Bellamy, John Hutchison, Ellie Johnson; Middle Row: Sally Gaines, Nancy Suda, Ruth Green, Tina Sorden, Andy Harris; Bottom Row: Sylvia Larson, Steve Carter, Scott Nutting, Myra Steele, and Evelyn Carter. Missing: Jake Haun, Jr., Jake Haun, III, Alicia Hodges.

Summer on the Mountain

THE MOUNTAIN hires a staff of fifty each summer, with ages from 17 to 70! Now is the time to let us know about your interest in being on the staff. We need people in many different areas: Counselors, Nature, Horses, Waterfront, Recreation, Kitchen, Maintenance, Office, and a Nurse. Some positions run from April 1 through December.

WINTER – SPRING PROGRAMS

How to Have Your Christmas and Be At The Mountain Too! Dec. 16-18

Have you always wanted to spend Christmas at THE MOUNTAIN, but couldn't because family traditions were even more important? Now's your chance to have Christmas at home . . . or at grandma's . . . or wherever it's always at . . . AND have Christmas on THE MOUNTAIN too. We're going to celebrate it *twice* just for you!

Yes, we'll have our traditional tree trimming and even start a new tradition of a candlelight service and Santa Claus may even come — all a week early! The weekend of Dec. 16-18. Christmas on THE MOUNTAIN.

Ski and See Dec. 19-22

Here's a ski package especially for beginners and intermediates . . . and the budget-wise! Arrive Monday and spend a relaxing evening getting acquainted. On Tuesday, we'll take our time driving the 4 hours to Appalachian Ski Mountain at Blowing Rock, NC, enjoying a picnic lunch and scenery along the way. Tuesday evening and Wednesday we'll ski on this relatively large but uncrowded slope, returning to THE MOUNTAIN Wednesday evening. We'll spend Tuesday night with UU families in Boone. Larry, Mo and Brian plan to make it a family ski trip. (And why not stay at THE MOUNTAIN an extra day or two and ski at nearby Scaly Mountain.) Specify weight and shoe size when registering.

A UU Holiday Dec. 19-23 Dec. 26-30

If you want to take a break from the frenzy of the usual Christmas season, come to THE MOUNTAIN! Evaluate for yourself what you want from the holidays and consider spending your money on what is most important to you. We think one of the most meaningful ways to celebrate the holidays is with your MOUNTAIN "family."

Come any time Monday-Thursday either December 19-23 or December 26-30 and your room will be half price! Come work as your gift to THE MOUNTAIN and receive in exchange reduced rates. (Free room for working half time.) In any case, consider rewarding yourself with a special holiday vacation.

Christmas on The Mountain II Dec. 23-26

Christmas is a special time on THE MOUNTAIN. Typically a small group gathers to celebrate with THE MOUNTAIN "family" (whoever is here!) and memories of past holidays, good fellowship, and a cheerful spirit prevail. We hope you'll be with us this year to begin a tradition of a candlelight service on Christmas night. We'll also have hikes, star gazing, and all the rest.

Leadership School during Christmas Vacation Dec. 26-30

Learn skills to improve interpersonal relationships and become more effective leaders. The course is designed to train Junior and Senior Counselors (minimum age — High School Juniors), but is applicable to anyone who is interested in working with people in a leadership position. On completion, you will receive a certificate which entitles you to a $5/week pay increase if you become hired for THE MOUNTAIN staff! Or use it to impress a prospective employer.

New Year's Celebration Dec. 30-Jan. 2

Help us welcome 1984 with a safe and sane family celebration of New Year's Eve. What better place could there be to spend this special time of the year? Make your reservations early — we're always full!

Cross Country Skiing Jan. 20-22

Join Nancy Suda and Jake Haun for a weekend of cross country skiing. We'll ski on the Blue Ridge Parkway in a beautiful winter wonderland. Come enjoy the peacefulness and exhilaration that comes with cross country skiing. Bring your own equipment if you have it or we'll arrange to rent equipment if it is unavailable in your locality. On the registration form list shoe size, height and weight if you are not bringing skis with you.

Ski Scaly Jan 27-29 Feb. 10-12

Scaly Mountain is just four miles away and is a nice beginner and intermediate slope with machine-made snow and no long waiting lines. We'll bring your lunch to the slopes on Saturday. Specify weight and shoe size when registering.

Celebrate the Green March 16-18

St. Patrick's Day falls on a weekend just to give us another excuse for a party! Irish or not, we'll all get into the spirit on this weekend for the "young at heart!"

Lobster Bash!!! March 30-April 1

Who said it couldn't be done? Well, we're going to do it — fly in direct from Scarborough, Maine, fresh LOBSTERS for your dining pleasure! We'll pick them up at the Atlanta airport and that same day they'll be on your table at THE MOUNTAIN — Saturday, March 31, 1984. Come for the weekend and share a little "down east" with your MOUNTAIN friends. (There will even be steak for your friend who doesn't know a good thing when it's put in front of him/her. Please specify steak and or lobster and quantity of each with your reservation.

Our First Raft Trip In Our Very Own Rafts May 5

We're really excited to have our own equipment for raft trips and hope you'll join us for our first big trip down the Nantahala River. Our experienced guides will make it a safe and enjoyable trip for ages 10 and up. Stay for the whole weekend to double your pleasure!

Spring Fling May 11-13

Our third annual celebration of the coming of Spring to THE MOUNTAIN. Enjoy a change of seasons as you drive to THE MOUNTAIN and arrive to see the new leaves on our oak trees just starting to come out in their velvety pastels. We'll have hikes and other special events, and our usual dancing into the wee hours of the night . . .

Report From The Board

Looking back on our 4th full year of operation, it looks as though THE MOUNTAIN has begun to reach the position of stability which we all envisioned. Here is some of the evidence:

- Many weeks this summer we were full and had to turn people away, particularly for the youth camps.
- The evaluations were uniformly positive, a large preponderance of 4's and 5's out of 5.
- For the first time, we are solvent. We ended the year with nearly $5000 in the bank. And, we made a profit on operations of over $12,000 which will go toward the mortgage payment.
- Our second membership drive reached its goal of over $300,000 in pledges.

This is not to say that there isn't a long way yet to go. Our outstanding indebtedness is still nearly $550,000 — due within 10 years. When interest is included, this means that we'll be required to pay annual mortgage bills of $90-100,000 for the next 10 years — no small task!

At its last meeting, our Board decided that at least two of our four Board meetings each year will have time set aside for policy questions and long-range planning. You're all invited to attend and participate.

Our thanks go to retiring Board members Judy Bonner, Bob Clabeaux and Wandrea Grist, all of whom have served us well. And a big welcome to our new members: Margaret Evans from St. Petersburg, FL and Larry Landrum from Blacksburg, VA. Officers elected for 1983-84 are: Roger Comstock, President; Christine Robinson, Vice-President; Sue Male, Secretary; Jack Gray, Assistant Secretary; and Harry and Leslie Donavon, Treasurers.

PLEASE POST!

the mountain

HIGHLANDS CAMPS AND CONFERENCE CENTER

WINTER-SPRING PROGRAMS

DECEMBER...CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!

Dec. 16-18	How To Have Your Christmas and Be At THE MOUNTAIN Too!
Dec. 17	Candlelight Service
Dec. 19-22	Ski Trip to Appalachian Ski Mountain in Blowing Rock
Dec. 19-23	A UU Holiday
Dec. 23-26	Christmas on THE MOUNTAIN II
Dec. 25	Candlelight Service
Dec. 26-30	A UU Holiday
Dec. 26-30	Leadership School
Dec. 30-Jan. 2	New Year's Celebration

JANUARY & FEBRUARY...SKI WEEKENDS!

Jan. 20-22	Cross Country Skiing
Jan. 27-29	Ski Scaly
Feb. 10-12	Ski Scaly

SPRING WEEKENDS...FUN AND FROLIC!

March 8-10	Work Weekend
March 16-18	Celebrate the Green!
March 23-25	Work Weekend
March 30-April 1	Lobster Bash!
April 20-22	Easter on THE MOUNTAIN
May 5	Our First Raft Trip In Our Very Own Rafts
May 11-13	Spring Fling!
May 25-28	Life Members Weekend

ELDERHOSTEL PROGRAMS...FOR THE "OVER 60s"

April 1-7	Not Just Weeds, Stars In Your Eyes--and Telescope, Living Creatively in a Creative Universe
April 14-20	Who-o-o-o Is That In the Tree?, Reading Rocks and Measuring Time, Viva Espanol!
April 29-May 5	Reading Rocks and Measuring Time, Religions of the World, Let's be Crafty/ Let's Be Jazzy
May 5-11	Appalachian Folklore and Music, Not Just Weeds, Let's Be Crafty
May 13-19	Please Don't Eat the Daisies..., Weather or Not, Our Fragile Land
May 19-25	Flora and Fauna, Contemporary Short Stories, Appalachian Folklore and Music
May 28-June 3	The Mystery of Ferns, The South Will Rise Again, Improving Your Travel Photography
June 3-9	Who-o-o-o Is That In the Tree?, Appalachian Folk History, Choral Singing
June 10-16	Carolina Whitewater, Introduction to Safe and Sane Sailing and Lake Canoeing, Natural History of Plants

And More in The Fall (Elderhostel)

August 25-31	Chattooga
Sept. 3-9	Chattooga
Sept. 9-15	Carolina Whitewater, Living Well, Natural History of Plants
Sept. 16-22	Carolina Whitewater, Photography, William Bartram's America
Sept. 22-28	Carolina Whitewater, Appalachian Folk History, Not Just Trees

A Unitarian Universalist Retreat

841 Highway 106, Highlands, NC 28741 (704) 526-5838

COSTS

ROOM		November - April	May, September, October
2 Bedroom Cabins with kitchenettes; Lodge Bedrooms (Doubles)	_____	$15 per person per night	$17 per person per night
1 Bedroom Cabins, Lodge or Cabins dormitory style	_____	$10 per person per night	$12 per person per night

These room rates are for ages 18 and over. Persons 13-17 are 50% of the adult rates; ages 12 and under are FREE

Six 1 bedroom cabins have been recently heated and are available for an additional $1 per adult per day to cover the extra cost of electricity from September to May.

BOARD		
	Ages 13 and over	$12.50 per day
	Ages 8-12	$9 per day
	Ages 4-7	$6 per day
	Ages 3 and under	FREE

These costs include the following times: How To Have Your Christmas...
Christmas on THE MOUNTAIN II
New Year's Celebration
Easter on THE MOUNTAIN

Special costs for other weekends:

Ski Trip to Appalachian Ski Mountain - Adults-$99.50; Ages 13-17-$79.50; Ages 12 and under-$54.00. Cost includes room, partial board, lift tickets, equipment, and transportation but does not include lunch on the slope and two dinners en route to and from Blowing Rock. Add $8 for lessons by their French/Swiss Ski College; deduct $15 if you have your own skis.

A UU Holiday: Room 50% of room rates for all! Plus, if you work 4 hours per day room is free.

Leadership School: $85 per person includes room, board, and a special adventure, too. Transportation from Atlanta will be provided for $10/person round trip.

Cross Country Skiing: Add $25 for ski rentals.

Work Weekends: Work 4 hours per day, room is free.

Celebrate the Green & Spring Fling: Add $5/adult, $1/youth for activities & parties

Lobster Bash: Add $10/person for first lobster or steak and $5 more the second one. Please specify quantity of each.

Raft Trip: Add $19

Elderhostel programs: $190 (Register with Elderhostel)

Note: Membership is not required for these special weekends...but why not become one anyway???

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S)_____ ADDRESS_____

_____ _____

ZIP

YOUTH _____ (Age) PHONE NUMBER ( )_____

_____ (Age)

PROGRAM _____

Anticipated arrival _____ for _____
First meal you plan to eat with us

Anticipated departure_____ after _____
Last meal you plan to eat with us

Room preference:
_____ Lodge (double occupancy)
_____ 2 bedroom cabins - winterized & heated (4-6 people per cabin)
_____ Lodge dorm
_____ 1 bedroom cabin - heated, available March-May (4 people per cabin)
_____ 1 bedroom cabin - unheated, available March-May (4 people per cabin)

People you would like to room with _____

Information for specific programs:_____

_____

PLEASE ENCLOSE A $10 PER PERSON DEPOSIT TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE.

TO REGISTER, mail the above form with your check to THE MOUNTAIN, 841 Highway 106, Highlands, NC 28741



The Rec Building in 1929!

Fall Visits Bring Memories

Some recent visitors to THE MOUNTAIN all shared something very much in common — fond memories of our mountain. Polly Dunne of Boone, NC and Ruth Cotterill Richards of Washington, DC were both campers here in the late 1920's when it was Camp Parry-dise. We've enclosed one of Polly's pictures of the camp.

At the Annual Meeting, Polly Wax and her children delighted us with slides of Camp Highlander which Polly and her husband, Ben, built in the late 1950's. It was fun to see the lodge being built, the "new" one bedroom cabins, and to hear all of their stories and learn of "Ben's dream" for this mountain.

These visits reminded us once again of the lasting impact which THE MOUNTAIN has on people. We appreciate their sharing their experiences with us.

Membership Drive Exceeds $300,000!

We're proud to say that our second Membership Drive exceeded the $300,000 level by the end of the Annual Meeting. This represents a significant accomplishment for all of us associated with THE MOUNTAIN.

New Life Members since the last newsletter include:

Annette Van Howe — Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Bob & Mary McGill — Sun City, FL
Mary Ellen Lundelius — Bradenton, FL
June Sarner — Marietta, GA
Bonnie & Fred Forte — Atlanta, GA
Gloria Wright/Kirk Nelson — Lawrenceville, GA
Walt & Alicia Hodges — Atlanta, GA
(Additional Life Memberships)
Bill Hammond — Leicester, NC
Frony Ward — Knoxville, TN
(New 3M Copy Machine)
Sherry Male & Terry Komp — Nashville, TN
Jennifer Nourse & Eric Gable — Falls Church, VA
(Above 2 given by Don & Sue Male)
Frances Bledsoe — Nashville, TN
Helen Ward — Blacksburg, VA
(given by Frony Ward)
Joan Hawkins — Williamsburg, VA
Dawn Kenny/Wink Lucas — Midlothian, VA
Pete & Mary Leta Tolleson — Greenville, SC
Brian Hearn — Charlotte, NC
Chet Hamilton — Matthews, NC
Scott Davis — Plainsboro, NJ
Judy Bonner — Plantation, FL
(2nd Life Membership)
Harry & Leslie Donavon — Marietta, GA
(Additional Life Memberships)
Nancy Suda — Highlands, NC
(2nd Life Membership)
Valinda Parrish — Memorial Life Membership
(Donated by Walt & Alicia Hodges as trustees)
Mo & Larry Wheeler — Clarkston, GA
(Dodge Maxi Van)
Peggy & Roane Beard — Alpharetta, GA
Don & Betty Hostetler — N. Augusta, SC
(2nd Life Membership)
Bob Hill & Cecily Field — Auburn, AL
Clif & Kay Hoffman — Athens, GA
Matt Montgomery — Atlanta, GA
(Given by Kay Montgomery)
Carole Light — Atlanta, GA
(Additional Life Memberships)

In all, 142 life memberships were gained during the two-year drive. Additionally, in the same time span, THE MOUNTAIN received over $14,000 in Annual Memberships and Special Gifts totaling $18,300.

Patron Member List Grows

We are particularly grateful to those individuals who are raising their cumulative giving to the $5000 level.

The last newsletter mentioned 10 of the first 11. We apologize for not listing Art and Myrtle Lockwood of Franklin, NC and West Palm Beach, FL.

Since July we've added Walt and Alicia Hodges of Atlanta, GA, Carole Light of Atlanta, GA (2nd Patron Membership), Frony Ward of Knoxville, TN, Harry and Leslie Donavon of Marietta, GA, and Mo and Larry Wheeler.

All were recognized at the Annual Meeting with the receipt of a beautiful hand-crafted pendant made by Evelyn Carter. Their names are now listed on the Patron Member Plaque in the Dining Hall.

"Adopt A Boat"

THE MOUNTAIN now owns 8 Blue Hole Canoes, 10 Kayaks, and 13 Whitewater rafts. Last summer we paid out almost $8,000 in rental fees for this equipment and yet had nothing to show for it. So with the help of two short-term loans we have invested in this equipment purchased second hand from the Nantahala Outdoor Center. This will enable us to run more rivers when we want to!

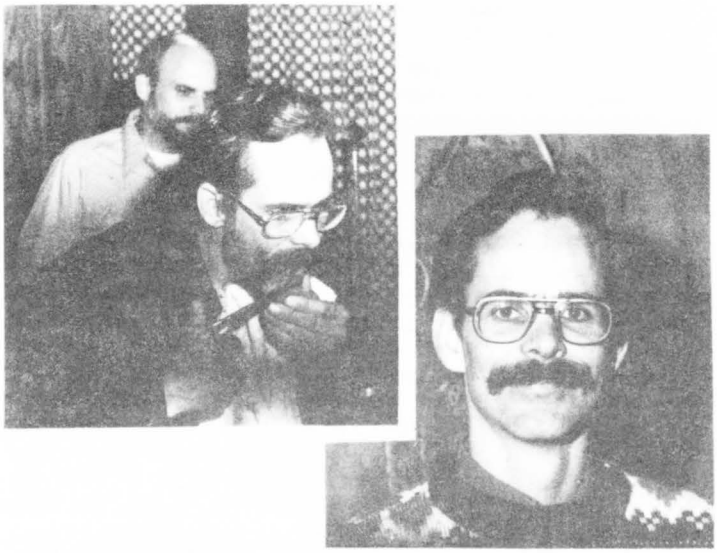
And you can be a part of it, too, by adopting one of these boats. For only $200 you can have your name placed on a raft, kayak, or canoe. We will name it the "UUS_____." UUS stands for Unitarian Universalist Ship! Send us your $200 check and tell us the name you want and what kind of boat. We'll soon have your boat ready for Spring trips on our beautiful rivers.



Nancy Suda admires her namesake, the UUS Nancy.

Steve's Beard Goes For $415!

The most expensive beard in history? It could well be! At the Annual Meeting's Your-Lost-Is-Our-Found auction, about fifteen people pooled their resources for Steve Carter to shave off his beard. But it was off and on, so to speak, as the bidding was one minute to shave it off and the next to leave half of it on! Well, we appreciate the sacrifice, Steve, and kind of like your new look!



Christmas Gift Ideas

Make your Christmas giving easy and meaningful. How about . . .

- A Gift Certificate from THE MOUNTAIN entitling your grandchild to two weeks of youth camp . . . or one for your spouse or special friend for a weekend for two . . .
- A UUA calendar with 4 colored photographs of THE MOUNTAIN . . .
- A MOUNTAIN sweater or T-shirt . . .

We'll even mail them to you free!

MOUNTAIN BRIEFS

• UUA Calendar Features Mountain Scenes

We're proud to be on the cover of the 1984 UUA Calendar (color photos this year) with Don Male's photo of a raft going through Nantahala Falls. We've also pictures for January (Meditation Rock — Evelyn Carter), July (Vesper Service — Larry Wheeler), and August (Dry Falls — Walt Pirie). The Calendar features color scenes of UU Camps and Conferences and can be obtained from THE MOUNTAIN or the UUA for $5.95.

• Sue Male Elected Secretary of Council of UU Camps and Conferences

Sue Male, MOUNTAIN Board Member and our Summer Office Assistant, was recently elected Secretary of the Council of UU Camps and Conferences. The action took place at the group's 9th Annual Meeting at Ferry Beach in Saco, Maine. Representatives attended from 21 of the groups.

• End of the Year Tax Planning

Don't forget THE MOUNTAIN as you finalize your end-of-the-year giving plans. Complete a pledge, take out an additional membership, give us a designated gift, become a patron. Remember, your contributions are tax deductible! Send your pledge, check or questions to Jake Haun, Jr., THE MOUNTAIN, 841 Highway 106, Highlands, NC 28741.

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NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS

Please change your records to reflect the address as now listed. The post office and THE MOUNTAIN appreciate it.

THE MOUNTAIN
HIGHLANDS CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER
841 Highway 106
Highlands, NC 28741

Non-Profit Org.
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Highlands, NC 28741

THIRD CLASS MAIL

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