the mountain
HIGHLANDS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

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

Vol. VII, No. 5 December 1987

WINTER NEWSLETTER

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

by Gary Blaine



There was once a little boy on the corner of a street trying to sell his flop-eared puppy. A salesman passed by every day, and after a week he began to pity him. He said to the boy, "Son, do you really want to sell this dog?"
The boy replied, "I certainly do!"
"Well", said the salesman, "you're never going to sell him until you learn to think big. Take this dog home, clean him up, raise your price, make people think they're getting something big, and you'll sell him."
That noon the salesman came by and there was the boy with a puppy that was groomed, perfumed, and beribboned alongside a big sign: "TREEEMENDOUS PUPPY FOR SALE — $5,000."

The salesman realized that perhaps he had overstated his case. But that evening when he came to the corner the boy and the puppy were gone. The sign has "SOLD" written across it in big letters. He couldn't believe it. Several days later he met the boy on the street. He blurted out, "Son, you didn't really sell that dog for $5,000 now, did you?"
"Yes, sir, I did and I want to thank you for all your help."
The salesman asked, "How in the world did you do it?"
The boy replied, "Oh, it was easy. I just took two $2,500 cats in exchange!"

. . . .

As we begin the capital funds campaign for Phase I of The Mountain's "2001 — Long Range Plan", I think it is only fair that we ask what return or benefit will be derived from our donations and gifts. To put it another way, "What Difference Does The Mountain Make?" There are at least three areas where The Mountain makes a difference; to the Unitarian Universalist Association, to the local societies, and to the individuals and families.

Strengthening Our Denomination

The Mountain introduces many people to Unitarian Universalism. We are not seeking "converts", but we do attempt to inform people about our movement and dispel some of the mistaken notions of Unitarians being godless communists or Moonies. We host 21 weeks of Elderhostel a year where we give our guests an opportunity to become acquainted with Unitarian Universalism.

Our annual convocation on Unitarian Universalism enables people to discover the rich plurality of our tradition, to be challenged in their thinking, and to nurture their quest for the Truth. These opportunities are especially significant for UUs who live in smaller communities. Their sense of isolation is broken when they are given a chance to enter into dialogue with UUs from around the nation. Our conviction is that a stronger sense of UU identity has a profound impact on an individual's commitment to local societies and the denomination as a whole.

Our Ascender program for high school seniors is one of our most effective youth development opportunities. Ascenders spend the first two weeks at Senior High camp, and then spend the rest of the summer working as understudies. In addition to the work they do, they spend a tremendous number of hours in personal development. There are many discussions about personal identity and UU values. At the conclusion of our 1987 session one of the Ascenders approached me to say "thank you". He said that when he entered the Ascender program he was not sure what his religious commitments were. His mother was a Quaker and as much as he loved and respected her and her beliefs, he could not claim that tradition for himself. "But this summer", he said, "I discovered that I am a Unitarian Universalist. And I wanted you to know how much I appreciate your help in making that discovery."

Strengthening Our Societies

The local society of the Unitarian Universalist is the backbone of our denomination. The Mountain is dedicated to strengthening and nurturing local societies. We are here for church and church board retreats. We host an annual Leadership School that prepares lay people to hold offices in their congregations. They are exposed to theories of personality, organization and development, and UU history and values. Our training will focus on such issues as membership growth, finance campaigns, and pastoral care. The Mountain also hosts training for religious educators. For the past several years The Mountain has offered the Renaissance Model for Religious Education. Leadership training is also evident with adult leaders of youth. Many of our youth camp counselors return to their societies prepared to assume greater responsibility.

Helen got the job as president for her local society because she had worked so hard on a number of committees. She could not decide if she was being rewarded or punished, or if someone else could not be found to take the position. At Leadership School she was confronted with the responsibility of preparing a vesper service. She did not mind doing the committee work, but the idea of standing before a group of people, leading them in worship, and then being critiqued unnerved her. But Helen was surprised to hear herself proposing a structure for the vesper service, and inviting people to join in song and thought. She left with tools to use in her leadership of a local society. More importantly she returned with a new sense of confidence. con't. on pg. 5

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

by Dr. Gary Blaine

Dear Friends:

I know of a local farmer who had been thoroughly taken many times by a certain car dealer in town. Then one day the car dealer informed the farmer he was coming around to buy a cow. The farmer attached the following information to the cow:

Basic cow	$500.00
Two-tone exterior	45.00
Extra stomach	75.00
Product storing compartment	60.00
Hay chopper	120.00
Four spigots @ $10.00 each	40.00
Cowhide upholstery	125.00
Dual horns	15.00
Automatic fly swatter	38.00
Fertilizer attachment	185.00
Total	$1,203.00

The Mountain was something like that basic cow when we purchased it in 1979. It was a rustic facility which operated as a summer camp. Several of the buildings were first built between 1928 and 1935. We have been working hard to make improvements. Aside from winterizing cabins, we have made major structural repairs, i.e., a new roof on the Program Center; new foundation for cabin #12 which was leaning into Blue Valley; and foundation repair to the dining hall which was beginning to look like a swayed back mule.

Now we face one of the most critical and challenging tasks in our history. This summer the Macon County Health Department determined our septic system with its present drain fields is deteriorated and saturated beyond repair. In essence they have stated that the continued operation of The Mountain depends upon the completion of our new wastewater treatment system by June 1, 1988. We had already requested proposals from engineers and we are confident we can make the deadline.

The wastewater plant is estimated to cost as much as $200,000. It will serve all of The Mountain's present and projected needs. Since it is included in the goal of $600,000 for our capital funds campaign for Phase One of the 2001 Plan, the executive committee has urged that we launch this campaign immediately.

During the next several months you will be receiving detailed information about this capital funds campaign and the challenge we face. Generous investments by Life Members and friends have allowed The Mountain to become one of the finest Unitarian Universalist Camp and Conference Centers in the continent.

Clearly the most important task before us is the completion of the wastewater treatment system. Initially we have start up fees which include survey work and site preparation, and then construction.

We need your help financially. Would you write a check today for $5,000 - $2,000 - $1,000 - $500 - $250 - or any amount for this project? Of course, this additional commitment would be credited toward Life or Patron membership status, and could be used for additional Life memberships, a great gift for your children.

Karla and I so believe in this project and in The Mountain that we have committed ourselves to a Patron pledge of $5,000.

Going back to that basic cow, we realize all of the "extras" were essential to the whole make up of the animal. The wastewater treatment system, Mountaincamp, and debt retirement are all essentials. We would appreciate any help you can give us at this time.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this very urgent matter.



In love and peace,

Gary

Gary

THE MOUNTAIN'S NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

Jim Littlefield's wife, Bobbie, describes him as wonderful, bright, sterling and tall. And that he is. Jim joined The Mountain's Board of Trustees this fall as SUUSI's representative. He and Bobbie live in Blacksburg, and will be making the six-hour trip to The Mountain often to attend board meetings and many of The Mountain's programs.

Jim is head of the marketing department at Virginia Tech. He and Bobbie are avid cavers, great SUUSI enthusiasts and frequent hikers.

What does he hope to accomplish in his new post? "I hope to contribute my skills and contacts to help make The Mountain a continuing, progressive, financially solvent institution," he said. "I believe The Mountain is an integral part of Unitarian Universalism in the U.S. . . . possibly in the world."



Welcome, Jim and Bobbie!

ELDERHOSTEL PROGRAM

12/87

The Elderhostel program at The Mountain is proving to be a study in symbiosis. For 23 weeks of the year about 40 participants enjoy The Mountain and all its beauties and activities. The revenues from the program provide a predictable, operational income. Guests arrive on Sunday and leave on Friday, so weekend space is open for UU activities. An additional benefit is that more than 900 retired persons each year spread the word about what's happening at The Mountain.

Elderhostel is a national organization that organizes week-long retreats at a variety of locations throughout the country. Participants can choose among programs - everything from geological studies at the Grand Canyon to learning about the biology of the North Carolina mountains.

Anne Heath, director of the Elderhostel program at The Mountain has developed comprehensive nature study opportunities for her Elderhostel guests. She has organized a complete nature slide library to entertain and educate her 'students.'

Several weeks of the year include botanist Marie Mellinger as group leader. Marie, who is a senior dynamo, lends her incredible knowledge and enthusiasm to make a week at The Mountain a unique experience. In a recent trip to the Highlands Botanical Gardens several conversations among participants as they tromped through the flora were worth repeating:

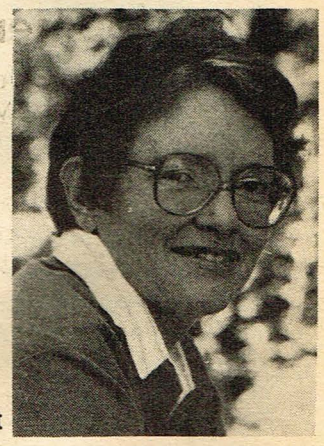
One guest to another: "Mary Sue! It's a Carolina wren...Marie just told me! We've been hearing that call for years!"

Marie: "If a species name ends in 'bane' such as daisy fleabane or ratsbane, it is a poisonous plant; if it ends in 'wort' as in spiderwort or ebony spleenwort, it's medicinal."

Another guest: "This is my first Elderhostel experience, and you can bet I'll be back for more."

Anne heath's programs and Marie Mellinger's knowledge of the area's botanical treasures are shared with other guests at The Mountain. You can see Anne's slide show "Highlands, Then and Now", a history and natural history of the area, by requesting it from the office. And, look for Marie's book "The Trees of The Mountain" in the store. Her "Flowers and Ferns of the Forest" will be available soon.

Elderhostel Instructors



The Mountain is looking for new Elderhostel Instructors for the fall, 1988 program. Instructors receive a free week at The Mountain for themselves and their spouse or friend while providing about six hours of instruction.

If you have a course idea that you think would be of interest, call Anne Heath at The Mountain, 704-526-5838.



"Mountain Magic" is on the way!

A very special thanks to Maggie and Tom Anderson from The Production Shop in Atlanta and Phinizy Calhoun, technician, for their sensitive interviewing, video taping and editing of "Mountain Magic". The video tape highlights activities and programs at The Mountain and conveys the feeling that "you have to experience it to believe it..." And many thanks to our "stars": Allie, Matt and Frances Gooding, Ken Kortmeier, Rene Cline, Katherine Crum, Tom Martin, Sandra Clipp, Sally Bellamy, Jake Haun, Carol and Matt Graves, Peter Benedict, Janet Judge, Gary, Karla, Christopher and Jeremy Blaine. Watch for "Mountain Magic"...it will be available to any congregation who wishes to know more about what its like to be at The Mountain. Contact the office or your Mountain rep if you'd like to see it.

An Extraordinary Christmas

Frances and Eddie Pierce, food service directors at The Mountain, are planning an extraordinary Christmas dinner for their guests. And, knowing the Pierce's style, it will be served with grand panache. Here's the menu:

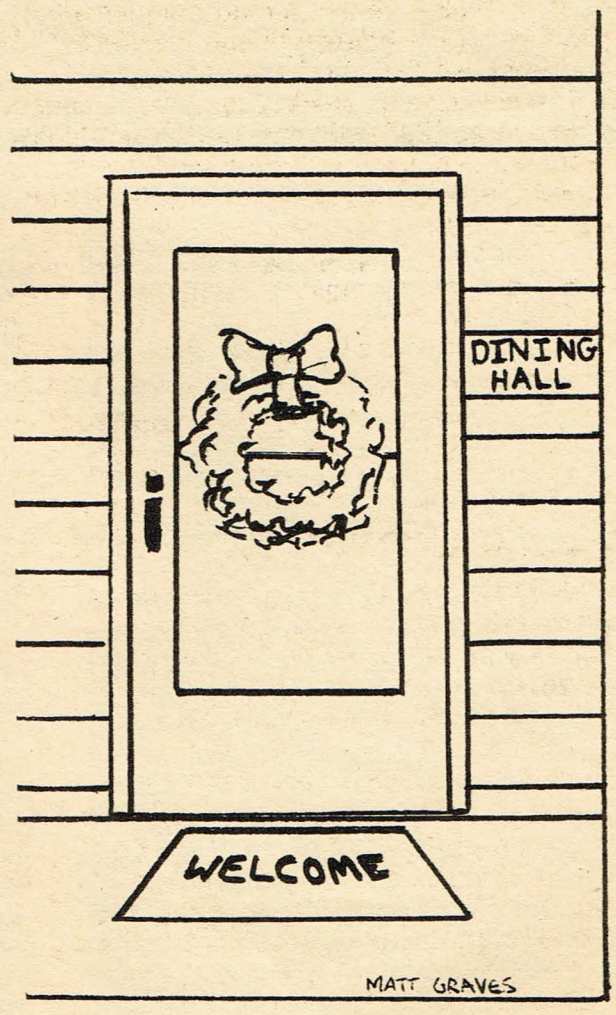
Roast turkey
with chestnut dressing
and giblet gravy
Country ham
Eddie's scalloped oysters
Louisiana style sweet potatoes
Fresh brussels sprouts
Cranberry sauce
Relish tray
Hot homemade rolls
Fluffy pumpkin pie
Mincemeat pie
Fresh coconut cake

And now, for what Frances claims is the best oyster recipe that ever existed:

Eddie's Scalloped Oysters

1 quart fresh oysters
1 stack saltines, crumbled
4 medium shallots, minced
1 bunch fresh parsley, chopped
juice of 2 lemons
dash cayenne
salt to taste
white pepper to taste
1 stick butter
1/2 pint heavy cream

Butter a 10-inch casserole. Layer oysters, shallots, chopped parsley, lemon juice, cracker crumbs and dot with butter. Repeat layers. Pour liquid from oysters and heavy cream over the layers. Bake at 350° for about 1/2 hour (do not overcook). Serves 4-6.



WANT ADS

We need you on our team.

The Opportunity of a Lifetime . . . To Live and Work on The Mountain!

The Mountain needs some special people with special skills to help build the dream and to ensure that guest receive the best possible care and comfort.

If you think you qualify and would like to apply, send your resume to Gary Blaine, Director, c/o The Mountain, 841 Highway 106, Highlands, North Carolina 28741.

Development Officer

The development officer reports to the director and is generally responsible for managing the development office, including membership records and recruitment; nurturing members; designing and implementing fundraising campaigns, including annual fund drives and special capital projects. Detailed job description and compensation information is available from Gary Blaine.

Maintenance Assistant/Carpenter

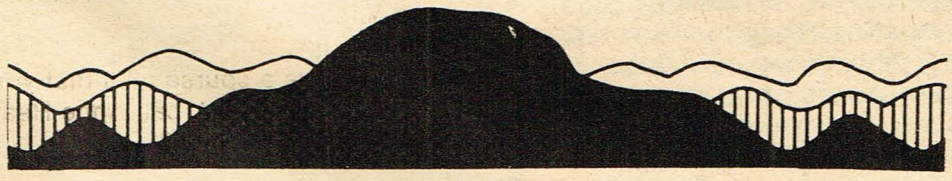
This position reports to the facilities manager and must have knowledge, skill and experience in rough and fine carpentry. Responsibilities include carpentry for cabin remodeling, renovation, winterization; includes structural reinforcement, cabinet making, paneling, exterior wall construction. Compensation includes housing, board, salary, insurance and paid vacation.

Maintenance Assistant/General

Reports to facilities manager and must have knowledge and skills in electrical wiring, plumbing and general maintenance. Responsibilities include maintaining electrical and plumbing, cabin cleaning, assisting on construction projects. Compensation includes housing, board, salary, insurance and paid vacation.

Food Service Personnel

The Mountain needs full time, experienced food service personnel for year-round employment. Responsibilities include food preparation, service and clean-up. Call Ed Pierce at The Mountain, (704) 526-4266.



YOUTH PAGE

It's something of an experiment, this page. Several of our favorite youthful members have contributed articles for this issue, and would like to challenge to other youth to write about their experiences at The Mountain.

If you have something you want to share about your experiences at The Mountain, just send it along to Gary Blaine, c/o The Mountain. If there is enough interest, we'll continue the "Youth Page". Or, if you have any questions for Pam & Pam (youth camp directors), we'll print them, with answers! Thanks to Matt Graves for the masthead design.



Whenever extra hands are needed during the summer schedule, we depend of the Ascenders.

ASCENDING

by Kris Harker

I have been given this space to share with you a few aspects of my summer as part of an extremely wonderful group of people, the Ascenders. It was the most loving, warm and sometimes exhausting six weeks of my life, and it affected me profoundly.

As Ascenders, we were the tightest knit group within the staff on The Mountain. Thirteen of us in all, we lived in the Program Center rather "cozily". We spent nearly all of our time together, working six hours a day, six days a week, and taking a trip every Friday (we visited the Cullasaja, Wolf Creek, and Atlanta, to name a few). We did have our precious moments alone, however. I used mine to write poetry and sleep.

The jobs we did weren't limited to camp activities; we worked on maintenance, in the kitchen, and with the childcare program in addition to the recreation staff and youth camp jobs. On maintenance crew, we spent a lot of time digging. We dug a drainage ditch in front of the dining hall, some "flumes" around the recreation hall and we made a new trail to arts and crafts and the lake. We also painted signs, cleaned the bus, washed vans, spruced up the crafts barn and water-proofed the lodge deck. For starters. In the kitchen we worked two hours after every meal, cleaning the tables, washing dishes, stocking shelves and more.

But work was just one part of being an Ascender. I learned much needed skills in dealing with authority, living with people successfully and communication. We weren't allowed to keep our problems to ourselves; everybody always got bombarded with advice when a conflict arose.

When the summer was over, and all problems has been solved, and the shoulders had been cried on, and all the good-byes had been whispered, I came away with a renewed spirit and a group of permanent friends. Even now I feel very full and happy when I remember the time that I spent as an Ascender. But don't take my word for it, you have to experience it.

I'm a lucky girl

by Heather Blaine

Have you ever spent seven consecutive weeks at The Mountain? I have! I went to The Mountain to visit my father, Gary Blaine, and my brothers, Jeremy and Christopher.

I arrived at The Mountain on June 11, and stayed through August 1. In that time many cool things happened . . . I made a lot of friends, had my 13th birthday, and I went to the Junior High and the 11-14 Youth Camp sessions. In both sessions Margaret Reed and Rachel Croskery were my counselors in Cabin 20.

All the people in my cabin were sweet. There were many exciting activities! To name a few, there were arts and crafts, rafting and hiking. In arts and crafts I did a lot of tie dye and copper enameling. To date, I have six tie dye shirts, one pair of boxer shorts and a tie dye sheet. I also have three copper enamel necklaces, six pairs of copper enamel earrings and three pins!

Well, after all of that fun I had to leave. There were a few tears and a lot of hugs as my mom drove off with my two brothers and me.

Come on up . . . the winter's great.

by Meagan Carter

The Unitarian Universalists on The Mountain encourage you to plan ahead for a winter retreat while space is still available. The Mountain is a wonderful place to relax and is known for its laidback atmosphere. The natural beauty of the surroundings creates a great place for people to get together and share.

Coming to The Mountain with your church's youth group or just with your family is not only fun, but also can be an exciting learning experience. Kids get a chance to be with a variety of different peer groups. New friends are made easily and all backgrounds and beliefs are welcomed warmly. The Mountain's environment makes it easy to share ideas and learn about yourself and others.

(Meagan lives with her dad, Steve, in Highlands, and spends lots of time at The Mountain and on the nearby ski slopes with friends from The Mountain.)

Discovering Treasures at The Mountain

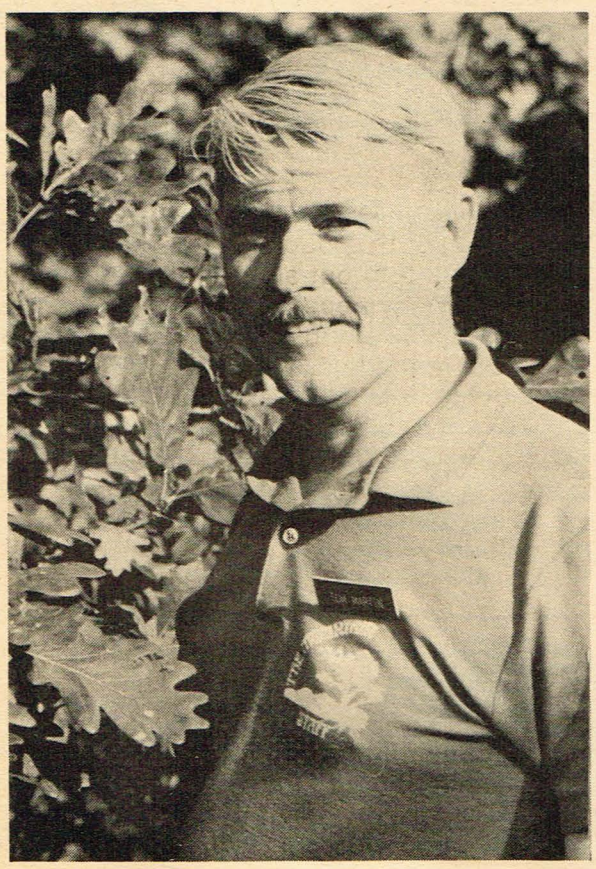
Nature Specialist Tom Martin has extended his stay at The Mountain. He came to The Mountain in June to work on youth camp nature . . . the "treasures" he found are the unique natural resources and wealth of animal and plantlife to be studied and documented.

Tom was trained in zoology, botany and fisheries management and his job at The Mountain is to develop educational materials and new programs that will help guests of all ages to understand and appreciate the special environment The Mountain and surrounding area offer. He regards his staff duties as an extension of his 18 years of college teaching experience.

"I came to The Mountain thinking this probably would be only a summer job," he said. "Now that I see what's here and how much that could be done here, it's hard to leave." Tom has developed a series of self-instructive nature activities that are adapted to youth camp age groups. They focus on trees, soil, flowers, spiders, lichens, birds, etc., and were designed to be used by youth camp counselors with campers.

Tom is working on new programs about The Mountain's three species of oak trees . . . their biology and ecology, forestry practices and threats to their existence. He also will include the special properties of oak that make them so attractive for crafts, furniture and a surprisingly long list of other uses throughout human history.

Another project that's in the planning stage is a series of weekend and week long modular workshops that would provide guest groups with interactive programs when they're at The Mountain. Tom plans to pull together materials and experts on such diverse topics as wildflowers, trees, gemstones, ecology and hydrology. "We hope to make a difference in how guests of all agest view and react to The Mountain's unusual environment," he said. Anyone who takes the time to talk with him knows that he is succeeding in sharing these treasures.





Sally, the Popcorn Lady

by Carol Graves

"Do you play tennis?" Who me? No, sorry.

"Well, how about going for a walk with me tonight?" That sounded more reasonable so I accepted. Ever since that evening when Sally Bellamy and I walked down The Mountain we have been dear friends.

Walking arm in arm in th pitch black night, we stumbled into a relationship that I cherish. We talked about the beauty of the night, the stars, the frogs, the phosphore-scent spots along the road. She shared a bit about her family and some treasured memories. We talked about good books we've read and how we both feel about being at The Mountain. I told her about my relationship with my aging parents. Sally's friendly invitation and that walk down The Mountain changed my life some.

I learned a lot from this lady from Tallahassee . . . that spirit is what's important in growing older, that positive attitude, caring, and giving helps keep you vital . . . that a true interest in others promotes friend-ships that grow.

Later I remembered that Sally is the person who donated funds to build the deck onto the lodge. She was the person who gave a check for $2001 to start the fundraising for the 2001 Plan for The Mountain. Every summer and fall she tends the store at The Mountain and is hostess for happy hour on the deck. She has earned her nickname "Popcorn Lady" with the tons of popcorn she has prepared for guests over the years. She greets the Elderhostel guests each week with a contagious enthusiasm for The Mountain and what it has to offer.

What is it that's so attractive about The Mountain for Sally? "When a person gets to be my age, she wants to feel like she's needed and loved," explained Sally. "I get that feeling here at The Mountain. When I had to leave for a few days and return, people greet me as though I had been gone a long time. I look forward to meeting new people and getting to know them."

Sally is a special friend. I seek her out when I arrive at The Mountain. We hug and share ideas and experiences. She takes me to task when my photographs of her aren't just right. She tells me how wonderful my children are and how much she enjoys seeing them at The Mountain. She asks for help when she needs it.

When I grow up, I want to be like Sally.

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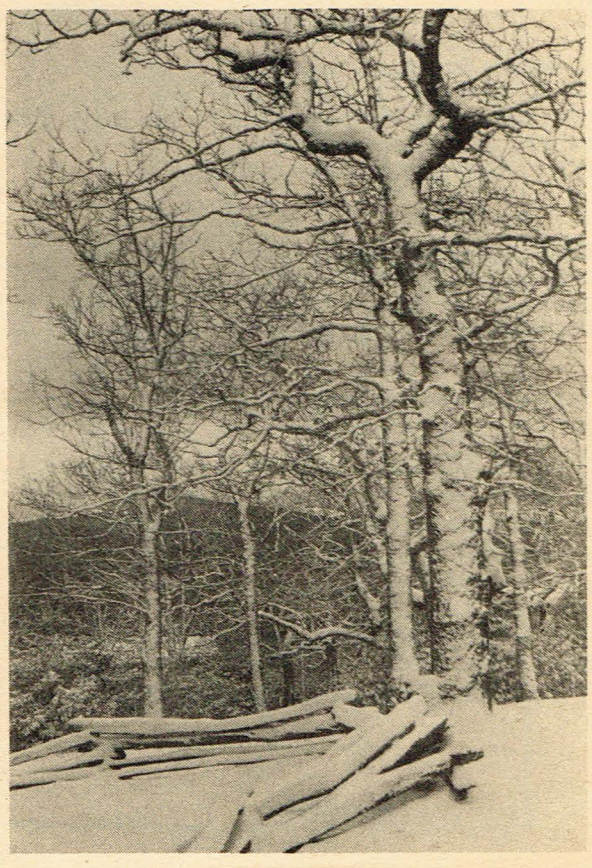
Strengthening Human Beings

The Mountain nurtures human beings through person-centered programs. Our guests may leave The Mountain with skills in canoeing, rafting, rock climbing, hiking, pottery, and painting. But we are more concerned with what fears did they overcome, what problem solving skills did they acquire, what challenges did they meet, what values did the embrace, and how did their sense of community expand? Most of The Mountain's campers return year after year, because we focus on the human process. The process of growing up is never over, and we nurture their growth.

In addition The Mountain sponsors gatherings for women, gatherings for men, marriage enrichment workshops, programs for singles and single parents, and opportunities for meditation and spiritual growth.

Amy was rock climbing in our junior high youth camp session. She was working her way to the top of a cliff when she panicked. She was suspended about seventyfive feet in the air, not able to move. One of our staff climbed down the cliff and sat with Amy for about 45 minutes, helping her reach within herself to find the strength to get to the top. She finally found the courage and worked her way up. Arriving at the top she sat down and wept. As the staff helped Amy process her feelings, she talked about how her family was very much like a child hanging over a cliff. They were suspended in their anger and unable to hear each other. Amy decided that she could not live that way any more. When she got home she was able to convince her parents that they needed family therapy.

The difference that The Mountain makes is not found in its buildings, its beautiful scenery, or its equipment. It is in the people who are willing to risk their minds and their hearts for the growth of others. Like a pebble dropped into a pond The Mountain ripples ever outward touching people, societies, even a whole denomination. The most important things of life cannot be measured - hope, courage, imagination, integrity, character, thought, and love. But if The Mountain has instilled in some measure these values in the hearts and minds of its community, it has served its purpose well.



WINTER ON THE MOUNTAIN

CHRISTMAS - NEW YEARS
December 24 - January 3

Looking for an alternative Christmas? The Mountain is an ideal place for you and your family to spend the holidays. You can anticipate a quiet setting, the warm company of UUs, and our excellent food. Special events include a candlelight Christmas eve service; Christmas brunch and gift exchange; New Years eve dance.

APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS
December 27 - 30

College students and young adults will gather at The Mountain for fellowship, inspiration, and recreation. Special events out of the Appalachian Christmas traditions will be led by Marilyn McMinn McCreadie. Vespers by Dr. Gary Blaine, Co-sponsored by the Atlanta area Young Adult and Campus Ministry task force.

UNDERSTANDING OURSELVES: A RETREAT FOR AND ABOUT MEN
January 15 - 17, 1988

Time will be spent in exploring who we are as men, especially in our roles as husband, lover, friend, father, and bread winner. Registration is limited to 30 men. Cost is $90.00. Workshop is conducted by Dr. William Sutton, a consultant in clinical and forensic psychology.

JUNIOR HIGH WORK SKI WEEKEND
January 22 - 24

Junior high aged youth are coming back to The Mountain for a weekend of work and skiing. Register through your RE director.

SINGLES SKI WEEKEND
January 29 - 31

Singles from around the Southeast will gather at The Mountain to ski and socialize. Don't ski? Don't worry! Lessons are included. Register early for this fun weekend.

SENIOR HIGH WORK SKI WEEKEND
February 5 - 7

Senior high aged youth are coming back to The Mountain for a weekend of work and skiing. Register through your RE director.

There are many spaces available on The Mountain Calendar for your family, church, business, or civic group. Let us help you plan your vacation or retreat.

SWEETHEARTS WEEKEND MAKING LOVE WORK
February 12 - 14

A workshop for couples, providing a step by step method for developing a more rewarding and successful love relationship. Examines self esteem, romantic love, the struggle for control, emotional intimacy, mature love. Conducted by Dr. Mike Lillibridge, a psychologist and marriage family counselor.
Cost is $170.00 per couple.

SNOW CARNIVAL: A Family Ski and Snow Weekend
February 19 - 21

Whether or not you already know how to ski, you and your family can enjoy this weekend together. Make memories with us on the slopes, sleds, snowfolk, and around the fireplace.

ANNUAL MEETING
February 26 - 29

All members - annual and life are encouraged to participate in our annual meeting to elect new Trustees, adopt the 1988 budget, and receive the report of the Director. Annual banquet will feature our guest speaker, Kay Montgomery.

1987 DAILY RATE SCHEDULE

Daily rates apply to drop-in visits and weekend programs, except when the guest is visiting The Mountain as part of a group (e.g. as church retreat). These rates do not apply to program weeks or youth camps.

Room Rates:

Category I: Heated space. Double occupancy in lodge; bedrooms of 2-bedroom cabins; couple or single family in 1-bedroom cabin.	$18.00 per person per night
Category II: Heated space. 1-bedroom cabins (3-4) adults per cabin; program center; staff cabins; lodge dormitory room; living areas of 2-bedroom cabins.	$15.00 per person per night
Category III: Unheated space. 1-bedroom cabins or staff cabins. (This option not available in freezing weather.)	$11.00 per person per night

Above rates are for age 18 and up. Ages 13-17 pay 50% of the adult rate, and ages 12 and under are free. Life members receive a 50% discount on room rates when attending The Mountain on a drop-in or weekend basis. The Life Member discount does not apply to program weeks or youth camps.

Group rates are figured on an individual basis, and quoted during the group reservation process. Contact the Director.

OTHER COSTS:

Linens: The above room rates assume that you will bring your own bed linen and towels. Please indicate on your registration form if you want us to provide linens at a cost of $4.00 per person per visit. Pillows and blankets are provided at no charge.

CU2C2: Drop-in and weekend visits will have 50 cents per adult per visit added which is used to support the activities of the Council of UU Camps and Conferences, and to make a contribution to the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Program fees: Whenever The Mountain has planned a program (e.g. Oktoberfest, holiday celebrations, Film Festival) all registrants will be charged a program fee to cover these activities. Program fees are typically $5-10.00 per adult for the weekend.

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FOOD COST PRICE INCREASE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1988

Registration Form

Name _____ Address _____

_____ _____ zip ____

Youth _____ age__ sex__ _____

_____ age__ sex__ Phone (__) _____

_____ age__ sex__

Anticipated Arrival Date: _____ First Meal: _____

Anticipated Departure Date: _____ Last Meal: _____

Rooming Request: (give 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices)

Catagory I ____	Catagory II ____	Catagory III ____
winterized	winterized	unwinterized
semi-private	shared	semi-private/shared
$18/adult/night	$15/adult/night	$11/adult/night

Roommate Preference(s): _____

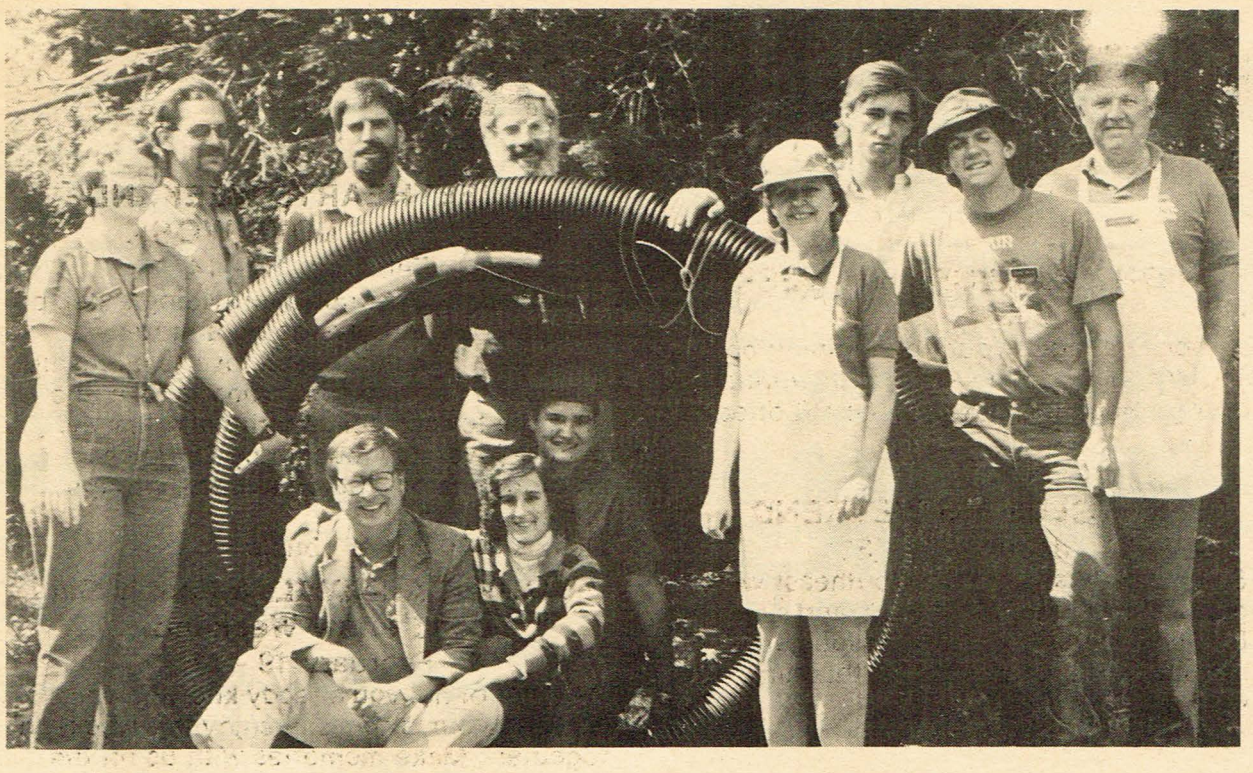
Special Dietary Needs: _____

Vegetarian (Y,N): ____ Chicken/Turkey (Y,N): ____ Fish (Y,N): ____

Other Needs (include physical): _____

FOOD COST*/Day/by Age: $14/13+, $10.50/8-12, $7.50/5-7, $0/0-4
(*food cost rate schedule to be revised in January, 1988)

Your TOTAL COST is based on Room + Board + Program Fee if applicable.
DEPOSIT REQUIRED: $15/adult on weekend or drop-in visits & $75/adult on weeklong visits.



IT'S NOT A MATTER OF CHOICE

The Mountain staff prepares for the new waste water treatment facility installation. Fund-raising has begun for the nearly $200,000 needed to bring The Mountain's waste water treatment system up to code (see Director's Corner). If you have any questions about the plans, talk to Larry Landrum, board member from Blacksburg, VA. or Ed Heath, facilities manager at The Mountain.

WE CAN USE IT!

The Mountain has some special needs. In case you have or know of anyone who has the following items that could be donated, please call us. Or, better yet, bring them the next time you visit.

linens - sheets, towels, pillow cases and blankets

twin beds

comfortable chairs

cribs and high chairs

bedside tables, lamps, dressers

rugs and carpets

office desk and chairs

office equipment - file cabinet and calculator

passenger cars and pick up truck

farm tractor

riding lawn mower

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD HELP SHAPE A MOUNTAIN?

If you know someone who would like to serve on The Mountain's Board of Trustees or on the nominating committee, please speak up!

In February elections will be held for two positions on the board and one person for the nominating committee. All are three year commitments. Board members are responsible for planning the future of The Mountain and making policy decisions.

If you are interested or wish to suggest someone, please send names to the nominating committee, c/o The Mountain, or contact nominating committee members: Bob Winchester, Clearwater; Chris Foreman, Clemson; Joan Armstrong, Atlanta (Northwest Congregation).

☐ **Send me a copy of the 2001 Plan. Enclosed is my check for $4.50.**

☐ **I want more information about the Mountainshare concept.**

☐ **I'd like more information about being a volunteer to help make the 2001 Plan become a reality.**

☐ **I would like to become a member:**

☐ A Patron Member. I'll pay $5000 over 10 years. Payment will be $500 per year in ____ (mo.), or ☐ $41.66 per month, or ☐ $125 per quarter
☐ A Life Member. I'll pay $400 a year for 5 years. I enclose my first payment of $_____
☐ Life Member. I'll pay $1600 within 12 months. I enclose my first payment of $_____
☐ Supporting Member .....$200 enclosed
☐ Contributing Member.....$100 enclosed
☐ Annual Member (minimum) ...$35 enclosed

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (home)_____ (office) _____

DEVELOPMENT CORNER

by Jake Haun

Attention Timeshare Owners: A Creative Idea from Mike Lappa (Northwest Fellowship), patron life member.

If you have unused timeshare weeks at vacation resorts you can save yourself cash by donating unused weeks to The Mountain. Your donated vacation may be resold by The Mountain or used as part of the compensation package for our staff. The benefit to you is a valuable income tax deduction. Here's how it works:

If you know in advance that you can't use one of your timeshare weeks, let us know. We'll give you a letter of acknowledgement to substantiate your tax deductible charitable donation. (Your resort will help you place a value on the week to declare on your tax return.)

RCI Exchange Club Owners:

Suppose you deposit your owned timeshare week in the RCI "spacebank" and request a week at a different resort. If no one has claimed the week you deposited within 14 to 21 days before the week begins, RCI assumes it will go unused. They will allow you to use the deposited week plus the one you receive via exchange. It's like getting a free week of timeshare. You can donate the "free" week to The Mountain and declare its market value as a tax deducation.

If you'd like more details about the timeshare donation concept please call Mike Lappa at (404) 396-6085.

NEWMEMBERSNEW MEMBERSNEWMEM

The Mountain welcomes the following wonderful people who have chosen to be committed to making The Mountain's dream come true:

Patron Members
Gary & Karla Blaine, Highlands, NC
Carol Graves, Atlanta
Betty Green, Ormond Beach, FL

Life Members
Nancy Bessler, Knoxville, TN
Dixon & Martha Burns, Tulsa, OK
Paul & Sandra Clipp, Clemson, SC
Bob & Marge Hybels, Needham, MA
Paul & Joy McClellen, Smyrna, GA
Robert & Christine Reynolds, Clemson, SC
Joseph & Martha Usatine, Orangeburg, SC

Memorial Life Membership
Bruce Walter Conlon, 1956-1987
by Dorothy Conlon

JUST A WILLINGNESS TO TRY . . .

by Mike Hamer

Even though my friend Louise Kessel and I had talked about the possibilities of white water rafting earlier in the summer, we had absolutely no idea that we'd have the chance to go rafting during our week at The Mountain. Louise was to lead the "Our Stories, Ourselves" workshop and I was just going to practice my hammer dulcimer and prepare some for the fall semester.

Since my diving accident in August of 1985 I've been a C-6 quadriplegic and unable to fully participate in many activities, such as hiking and swimming, that I formerly loved. Needless to say, I was excited by the prospect of going rafting. But I was scared, too. Mostly scared of getting cold since my body's thermostat is broken, but also scared of all the inconveniences I could cause to the others participating.



Lee Knight and the other counselors quickly made me feel that they were glad I was trying the rafting. That helped. Then, when I got on the raft and felt the exhilaration of the first rapids, felt the splash of the cool water on my face, saw the mist rise romantically in front of us, and glided past dense groves of rhododendron, I knew everything was just fine. Just fine.

I wasn't the only disabled person on the raft. Isabel, who has rheumatoid arthritis, was also enjoying the trip. We may have been the first disabled persons The Mountain has taken white water rafting (oh, and I went tubing, too). But I don't think it takes any particular skills or resources for a retreat center like The Mountain to provide great experiences for disabled folks, it just takes a willingness to try and to see what can happen.

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