

the mountain

HIGHLANDS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Volume 1, No. 8

Wendie Highsmith, Editor

June, 1980

Star Route — Box 40-A

Highlands, NC 28741

704/526-5838

PLEDGES TOP \$200,000 Fund Raisers Celebrate

At the end of May, our pledge total reached the \$210,000 plus mark, enabling us to draw the final portion of the \$200,000 loan from the Veatch Program. This means *THE MOUNTAIN* will be open and we'll have enough to pay the bills for repairs, furnishings, equipment and the like.

An analysis of our pledging shows there has been a steady increase in the pledge total since Oct. '79. This is very heartening. Only 4-5 more months are needed to complete the drive at this pace. A number of our larger societies will run their fund drives this Fall.

On May 24-26, the hard-working fund raisers gathered on *THE MOUNTAIN* to plan the remainder of the drive. Over 70 people (fundraisers and their families) attended. The fundraising mood and the fundraisers are very optimistic!!!



SADDLE UP, YOU ALL!!!

We are really pleased that we'll be able to have horses at *THE MOUNTAIN* this summer. Ken "Two Trees" Cannon, will be in charge of our riding program. Ken is providing us with the necessary horses, plus two mares with colts will be stabled at *THE MOUNTAIN* for everyone to enjoy this summer. Trail riding and lessons will be available — both *English* and *Western* — for reasonable costs (One hour trail ride: \$6).

And for *Youth Camp*, those not able to handle the fee will be able to work at the stables in exchange for use of the horses. Grab your oats, and let's go!

DIRECTORS' CORNER

Mo
LARRY

THE MOUNTAIN is bustling with activity! The movie crews for the CBS-TV movie being filmed on *THE MOUNTAIN* are everywhere. They have been very cooperative about working with us to make repairs and fix the place up, often doing more than they needed to for a particular set in order to help us out. Of course, we're also appreciative of the extra revenue they are bringing us.

Our recent visitors (especially those who have been here before) have been amazed at how much has been accomplished. The Recreation Building, previously joked about as the "Wreck" Building, is a totally different place, with new decks, new walls and new windows — certainly deserving of "Rec" Building. The Lounge in the Dining Hall has a new homey look; the kitchen has an impressive array of new equipment; three additional cabins have been partially winterized and rebuilt, the Lodge looks terrific, and several staff and other cabins have brand new bathrooms.

Many of our staff are here now and it's exciting to think about the summer ahead. We are especially pleased to have Bob Geller with us, as we have all been enjoying his gourmet cooking. Registrations are coming in slowly, but we hope they'll pick up soon. We have heard some concern about being crowded, but that's very unlikely this first season. Private rooms are available on request, and will probably not cost extra. For those who haven't seen *THE MOUNTAIN* yet, there is probably some hesitation about spending a week in an unknown place. Those who have been here can tell you how spectacular it is, but only YOU can really experience *THE MOUNTAIN*. We hope to see you!

FROM THE BOARD MEETING — May 10, Atlanta

Grist Appointed to Board

Jan Reinhardt, Knoxville, Secretary of the *Highlands Camp and Conference Board*, found it necessary to resign. Wandrea Grist, Northwest Unitarian Church, Atlanta, was appointed to fill Jan's unexpired term through Nov. '80.

What To Do About Highlands Real Estate

A number of our members already have expressed interest in acquiring real estate in the vicinity of *THE MOUNTAIN*; some for personal use, some to hold for eventual use of the *Camp and Conference Center*. Upon consideration of this development, the Board had two concerns:

1. A sudden increase in inquiries about property in the area will almost certainly have an adverse affect on prices.
2. We are still very new to the Highlands community and are working diligently to become accepted as friends and neighbors. A sudden surge of interest by UUs in buying up property could easily be viewed negatively by Highlands residents.

In an effort to avoid these perils, the Board requests all efforts to explore property in the Highlands area be channeled through its Real Estate Committee. The committee will be cognizant of both real estate values and land availability in the area. If interested, call or write:

Jack Gray, Chairman
715 Langford Lane, NW
Atlanta, GA 30327
Home: 404/252-4924
Office: 404/659-5300

Upcoming Board Meetings
All meetings are open to all UUs

July 31 — The *HCCC* Board meets at Summer Institute(SUUSI): "Goals and Objectives"

Sept. 20 -21 *HCCC* Board meeting to be held at *THE MOUNTAIN*: "Evaluation"

Nov. 8-9 - ANNUAL MEETING of the *HCCC* at *THE MOUNTAIN*: Elections(See separate article).

Roger Comstock, *President*



View from below Dinning Hall.

ARTISTS - Arise and be Counted!

Now that we have a name, help is needed with two artistic endeavors.

A logo is needed with sufficient flexibility to be used on signs, letterheads, T-shirts etc. It should be designed for use with and without the name. Send Your ideas or designs to:

Mo Wheeler
THE MOUNTAIN
Star Route - Box 40-A
Highlands, NC 28741

We are also in need of ideas for the Life Members plaque. The plaque will be hung permanently in a prominent place on *THE MOUNTAIN*. A variety of materials and designs should be considered. Approximately 200 names will be posted, and each must be on an individual, removeable plate. Send ideas, designs & questions to:

Ben Edwards
201 Maple Drive, NW
Lenoir, NC 28645

New Ski Resort Planned Near *THE MOUNTAIN*

Looks like we UUs aren't the only ones who like the looks of southern North Carolina. Not far from us, Scaly Mountain is being developed into a ski resort slated to open next winter. Initially 3 trails are planned with 100% snowmaking capability. Plans include skiing for 1600 people the first year, seven days a week. Night skiing is planned, too.

This addition in the area adds another possibility for UUs who are also skiers.

FISH . . . FOUL . . . Added To Family

Three hundred trout have been added to the family on *THE MOUNTAIN*! One of the highlights of the day has become "feeding the fish," which are in our second lake, in the woods. We've already become attached, so forgive us if we don't look when you go fishing this summer.

Quail, too. . . Thanks to the movie, we also have several quail wandering around the place looking quite relaxed and at home (We wouldn't have flown away, either!).

CAN WE JUST COME — For A Day Or So???

Since there are still so many people who have not seen *THE MOUNTAIN*, we have decided to also make it available on a DAILY basis for the 1980 summer season. You probably will be able to drop in and have a place to stay, but we can't make any promises so it's best to call first and make sure there's room.

Stay for one night or several; weekends also available. The costs are \$12 per person per night for room and \$11 per day for food (adults). Life Members only have to pay \$6 for room. Call *THE MOUNTAIN* and stop by and see us.

704/526-5838

MOUNTAIN'S RATES CRITICIZED — AND DEFENDED

A recent visitor said she appreciated comments from the Directors on why the rates "seem so high." She had made comparisons of *THE MOUNTAIN* with some state parks and church camps and was disturbed by the difference.

The Directors noted that State Parks and most church facilities are subsidized and/or already owned and mortgage-free. This is not true of *THE MOUNTAIN*.

The Fund Raising Campaign is designed to raise a portion of the revenue to pay for *THE MOUNTAIN*; the rest is budgeted to come from income-producing programs and fees for use of space. Also, we have budgeted for improvements and maintenance of *THE MOUNTAIN* as well as just "keeping it open." These are important needs over the years, when you own your own location.

THE MOUNTAIN's rates are comparable to other UU facilities across the country, and are especially reasonable if you are willing to share your space with someone else. We hope that churches and fellowships will begin scholarships for youth camp so that *all* UU youth will have the opportunity to attend. Your comments are welcome — and appreciated.

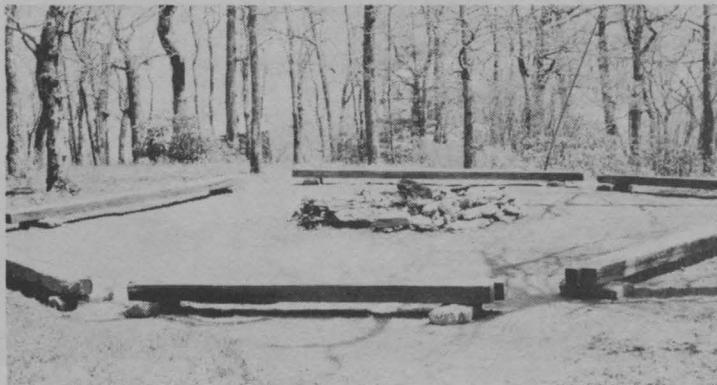
YOUR BOARD . . . UP CLOSE

Before he gets too far away, we'd like to introduce *Don Chery*, of Athens, GA, a member of the Board representing the Mid-South district. Don has accepted a position in Washington, DC and will be moving in June with son Anthony, age 13. He continues on the Board until the annual meeting in Nov. Don is presently a member of the Long Range Planning Committee and will continue as a member past November, we are pleased to say.

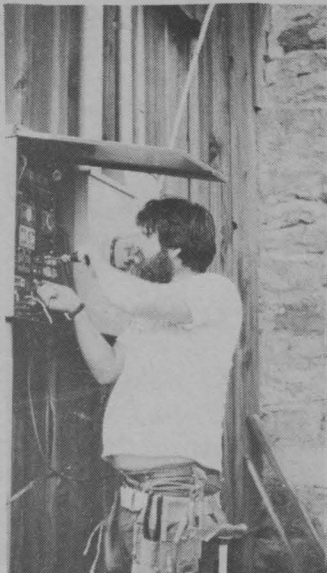
Don's professional vita is quite impressive! He holds a Ph.D. in civil engineering from Utah State. In Athens since '77, he has been a research hydraulic engineer with the USDA, investigating watershed and large basin processes in the agricultural area of the SE United States. Don is a published author, with frequent articles appearing in professional journals. He joins the earth sciences consulting firm of Dames & Moore in Washington.

Don was first drawn to Unitarianism while a grad student at Utah State. He became heavily involved with the Fellowship upon moving to Athens in '77, serving both as its treasurer and president. That led to his involvement with the Mid-South district which chose him to represent them on the *HCCC* Board.

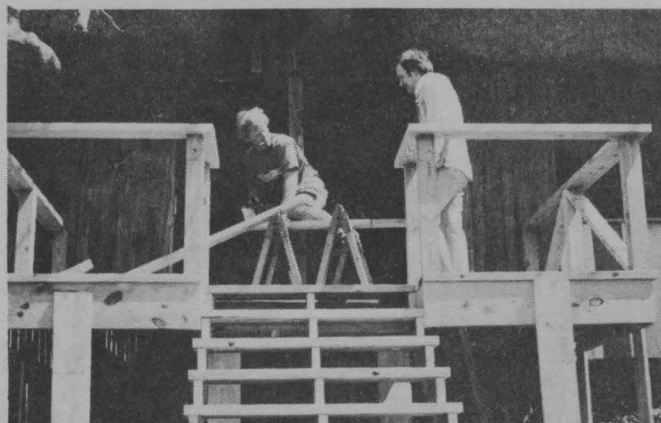
We wish Don every success in his new home and job and welcome his continued participation with the Long Range Planning Committee and *THE MOUNTAIN*.



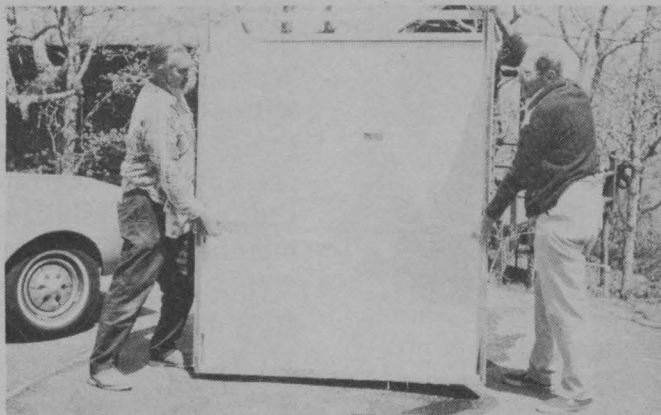
LOVE is a "Campfire" circle.



John Vacher from Clemson, SC—doing his thing.



New deck for Rec Building — just the beginning.



New bathtub for Franklin Fellowship's cabin.

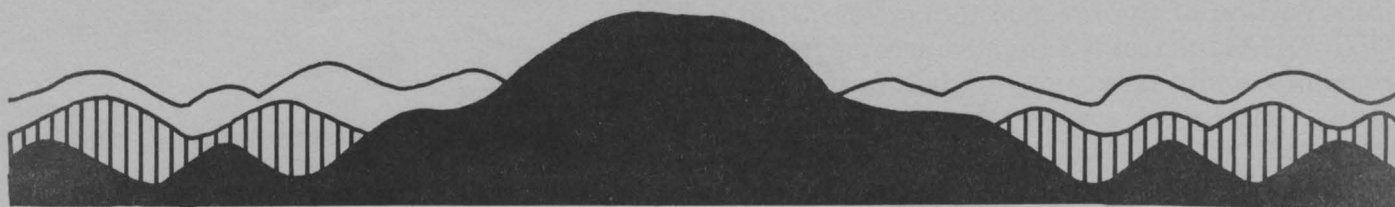


Tullahoma, TN UUs on a work weekend.

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