

# the mountain

## HIGHLANDS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Star Route — Box 40-A

Highlands, NC 28741

704/526-5838

Volume II, No. 1

Wendie Highsmith, Editor

Nov./Dec. 1980

### FIRST ANNUAL MEETING CONCLUDES A SUCCESSFUL YEAR!!

The first annual meeting of the *Highlands Camp & Conference Center* was held at *THE MOUNTAIN* on Saturday, November 8. Over 50 UUs from all over the Southeast attended. Participants heard reports from the directors and key committees; elected Judith Bonner, Ft. Lauderdale, to the Board; reviewed and commented on the goals and objectives of the corporation.

Elected to the nominating committee for 1981 (unopposed) were:

Stephen Papa — Ft. Lauderdale  
Margaret Ann Link — Raleigh  
Richard Speck — Birmingham



Attendees at the 1st Annual Meeting

### FUND DRIVE ECLIPSES \$300,000 MARK

On November 2, total pledges to *THE MOUNTAIN* reached \$300,000. As of this printing, the total is now \$308,000. Only \$22,000 left to go! Thanks to the fund raising organization for a tremendous job, and thanks to all of you "out there" who have exhibited enthusiasm and support for *THE MOUNTAIN*.

### DIRECTORS CORNER

Mo  
LARRY

As we celebrate our second Thanksgiving on *THE MOUNTAIN* with over 150 Life Members and their families for dinner, we reflect on the Thanksgiving Seder Service which accompanied the meal, watch people of all ages enjoying our wonderful facility, marvel at how many work projects can be accomplished with so many hands to do them, and appreciate the support given to us by all of these people. For those of you who worry about us working too hard times like these clearly recharge our batteries . . . Thank You!!

The enjoyment of the Thanksgiving weekend was clearly enhanced by the heat in the Dining Hall, kitchen and lounge area. The two large gas furnaces (totaling almost \$2000) were donated by 2 Life Members from Asheville. Two Atlanta Life Members gave us \$500 to help with other winterizing projects which have now given us heat and water in cabins 1-4 to go along with the Lodge.

As you approach our entrance on Rt. 106 you'll notice our sign now proudly states we are a "Unitarian/Universalist Retreat." Also, at night you'll be happy to see our sign lighted to assist you in finding the turn.

Leaving us as we complete our winterizing projects are our Maintenance Assistants - David Caudle and Ray Errett, who have been with us since early Spring. We value their friendship and appreciate the important part they've played in helping make our first year such a success.

From all of us on *THE MOUNTAIN* (Mo, Larry, Steve, Evelyn, Brian & Honey), we hope you and your families will have happy holidays and we look forward to seeing many of you in person as we celebrate them here!



Larry Shindelman, Jim White & Maethel Shindelman of the Franklin Fellowship, look on as Myrtle Lockwood makes presentation of a painting by Juanita White during ceremonies dedicating Cabin 6 in Nita's memory.

## THEY DID IT! YOU CAN TOO!

Ever since Southeast UUs showed interest in the *Highlands Camp & Conference Center*, the Franklin, NC, Fellowship has been there offering support and lots of willing hands. They decided they wanted to focus some of their energies on a cabin in need of renovation. And renovate they did—Cabin 6—from top to bottom—paint, furnishings, curtains, carpentry, plumbing, electrical — whatever it needed. Today it is one of the most attractive cabins on *THE MOUNTAIN*. It is a memorial to Juanita White and to the commitment of the Franklin Fellowship to *THE MOUNTAIN*.

Perhaps your society, group or committee would like to take on another of our cabins or buildings (No group is too small or large — Franklin has 30 members). We would welcome any group desiring to *Adopt-A-Cabin*. Contact Mo or Larry Wheeler.

## VOLUNTEER MIRACLES CONTINUE!!

Many of our important work projects would never be started, let alone finished, without the help of so many of you who volunteer your time to come up and tackle them. Some of this Fall's efforts particularly stand out: Greensboro, NC: sowing grass both on the athletic field and on top of *THE MOUNTAIN* (it's growing, folks); more from Greensboro "sweeping the rock" under the Carter's house to prepare for the cement foundation; Ed Jacobs (Charleston), Jake Green and Jim Cooney (Greenville) combining over two weekends to build the siding under the Carter's house; Eric Thompson (Athens) and the Koks (Columbus, GA) digging out for the foundation under cabins 3 and 4; the Priegels and Purtees (Atlanta, NW) arriving just in time to fix some frozen pipes, and the "regulars" from Franklin, NC — the Stauffers and Lockwoods, who continue to do a little bit of everything. Beyond these there are so many more of you who have helped clean-up from the summer, raked leaves, cut and hauled wood, etc., etc., etc. We all thank you!

## HIGHLANDS CAMP & CONFERENCE BOARD MEETS

The HCCC Board met in conjunction with the annual meeting the weekend of 11/8/80. In addition to Judy Bonner, new members of the Board are:

Sandy Kirkman (Atlanta, NW) appointed by Mid-South district.

Bob Clabeaux (Deland, FL) appointed by Florida district.

Many thanks to the following who are leaving the Board after a year of hard work and devotion:

### NAME: SOCIETY REPRESENTING

Ben Edwards	Boone, NC	At Large
Don Chery	Athens, GA	Mid-South
Bob Winchester	Clearwater, FL	Florida

Officers for 1981 include:

Roger Comstock — President  
Judy Bonner — Vice President  
Wandrea Grist — Secretary  
Jack Gray — Assistant Secretary  
Jim and Wendie Highsmith — Co-Treasurers

In other business, the Board:

- Declined a proposal to start a school on *THE MOUNTAIN* in 1981, referring the matter to the Long Range Planning Committee for further study.
- Approved the 1981 budget at \$317,550.00, a break-even budget which assumes a substantial increase in use of the facilities during 1981.
- Authorized the President to form a new long range fund-raising steering committee.
- Reappointed Mo and Larry Wheeler as Directors for 1981 and gave recognition for the tremendous job they have done.



Roger Comstock, President, Highlands Camp & Conference Board of Directors, presides over 1st annual meeting.

## A LOOK BACK, A LOOK FORWARD... Perspective

We've done an amazing job this year! Mo and Larry Wheeler and Steve and Evelyn Carter are to be congratulated for turning a group of old buildings on a cold mountaintop into a thriving, exciting community center for UUs from everywhere. But they couldn't have done it alone. The outpouring of enthusiasm, volunteers, laborers and pledges has been very exciting, as well.

In the face of the pressures on our world today—from the radical religious groups, from world hunger, from crime, from social injustice—we need a focus, a meeting ground, where we can celebrate our UU values and gain strength and commitment from each other. It appears *THE MOUNTAIN* is such a place, and Southeastern UUs will keep us together, as it has the Summer Institute over many years.

Speaking of Summer Institute, we owe that organization a debt of gratitude for envisioning, spawning and supporting *THE MOUNTAIN*. Let us not forget to support SUUSI in return.

As we look at the operation of *THE MOUNTAIN*, some of the results of our recent evaluation may be of interest. Our participants this summer came from all over the East coast. Not only were the nine Southeastern states represented, but we had guests from Vermont, Maryland, New York, Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, and West Virginia. Generally, our "campers" liked their programs and leaders. One questionnaire response disturbed me, though. Not only did we not provide sufficient spiritual quality to a participant's experiences, the participant rated a religious or spiritual experience on *THE MOUNTAIN* as low on his list of needs. I would hope both of these characteristics of our UU community change in future years.

Finally, I want to say that those of us on the Board want the management of *THE MOUNTAIN* to be an open, participative process. Naturally, when so many of us join in a venture such as this with high personal expectations, some frustrations are bound to result. Bear with us and keep trying. Let us know your point of view, and let us dare dream big dreams.

—Roger Comstock

## SKIING SEASON STARTS

Starting in mid-December, both *Scaly Mountain* (3 miles away - 704/526-3737) and *Sapphire Valley* (14 miles away - 704/743-3441), plan to be open for skiing. Enjoy the slopes and the company of other UUs by staying at *THE MOUNTAIN*. Make Your reservations, NOW!

## PRAISE FOR THE UNSUNG!

Throughout the canvass, we have extended both recognition and thanks to the many members of the fund-raising organization for their untiring efforts to put our *Mountain* in business. But there also are many who have contributed substantially in hidden ways. Without them, we could not have been successful. Some of these unsung heroes(ines):

*Arlene Wollmer*—maintained our pledge records and acknowledged every pledge.

*Ione Hayden*—kept the mailing list current through a hectic year (M.L. is now 2700, plus).

*Karolyn Kirk*—volunteered untold hours of typing to support the fund drive.

*Walter and Glendia Manka*—our printers

*Carole and Graham Henderson*—organized the booth at SUUSI both in 1979 and 1980.

*Jim Coe*—took and arranged the slides and wrote the script for our slide presentation. It won Honorable Mention in the Photographic Society of America's International Photo Essay Competition in St. Louis. Jim had been into photography less than 6 months when he took on this challenge.

*Susan Thompson*—along with *Mo Wheeler* and *William Benedict*, designed the logo and the fund drive poster.

Our many thanks to all these dedicated people, and to all those others, too numerous to name, who have helped make the fund drive a success.

## YES!!!

### *THE MOUNTAIN...*

*... will be open all winter,*

and yes we've planned special activities during the holiday season. Now is the time to reserve a day or a week of your vacation to enjoy the clear winter air and the warmth of a blazing fire. We'll have a tree-trimming party, a Christmas feast on *THE MOUNTAIN*, worship services, a New Year's Eve party (that you don't have to drive home from) and all the hiking, singing & dancing you have energy left for. In case of inclement weather, call first—we'll be working to clear the road and we can even pick you up at "lower altitudes," if necessary.



## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS

Even though the original capital fund drive is not yet over, it is time to begin the solicitation of annual membership dues for 1981. Our goal—and a necessary part of the 1981 budget—is \$10,500. Annual memberships in the amount of \$35 are sought from all those who have not become life members.

It's a fact of life that camps in our denomination have not been able to survive solely on the basis of summer program revenues. *THE MOUNTAIN* is no exception. In order to continue to pay our bills year-round, *THE MOUNTAIN* must count on support from its members in the form of annual memberships and special gifts.

Membership entitles you to a voice in the proceedings of the corporation and to use of the property on an individual basis. (Note: Membership is not required when you are participating in a program or a formal church or society gathering.) A membership obtained now is good from 11/10/80 to 12/31/81, including the annual meeting in 11/81.

Please send your \$35 to:

Highlands Camp & Conference Center  
P.O. Box 10021  
Atlanta, GA 30319

Mark it "1981 Annual Membership" and be sure to include your name, address and society name.

## THERE'S A SONG WITHIN OUR MOUNTAIN

- Presented at the Sunday Service during our *First Annual Meeting* — November 9, 1980 •  
(Tune: "River of My People")

Words by Ben Edwards\*  
Music: Shenko Razin, Russian Folk Song

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in 2/4 time and the key of D major. The score consists of two systems of staves. The first system contains the first two lines of the lyrics, and the second system contains the last two lines. The piano accompaniment is simple, using chords and single notes to support the vocal lines. The lyrics are as follows:

1. At the source of man-y riv-ers stands THE MOUN-TAIN high and  
2. On THE MOUN-TAIN we shall gath-er, share the warmth of kindred  
3. Every sea-son on our moun-tain, you can list-en hear the  
proud, see it shin-ing in the sun-light as it meets each pass-ing  
souls, grow in fell-ow-ship to-geth-er, as we seek our common  
call, there's a song with-in our moun-tain that en-rich-es one and  
cloud. See it shin-ing in the sun-light as it meets each pass-ing cloud.  
goals. Grow in fell-ow-ship to-geth-er as we seek our common goals.  
all. There's a song with-in our moun-tain that en-rich-es one and all.

4. Let the singing of THE MOUNTAIN,  
Enter each and every heart,  
Keep us close and strong forever  
Whether near or far apart.  
Keep us close and strong forever  
Whether near or far apart.

## 1981 RATES ANNOUNCED

On January 4, 1981 the following rates become effective:

### ROOM

FACILITIES	Jan. 4-Apr. 30 Nov. 1-Jan. 2	May 1-Oct. 31
Lodge (4 small - rooms), 1 & 2 bed- room cabins w/kitchenettes, and Program Ctr..	\$13/NIGHT	\$15/NIGHT
1 Bedroom cabins Cabin Dorms Lodge Dorms	\$11/NIGHT	\$13/NIGHT

These rates are for age 18 up. Persons ages 13-17 are 50% of the adult rate, and ages 12 and under—free. Life Members will receive a 50% discount except when part of a summer program or during certain other situations. Youth Group rates will be 50% of above including any advisors.

A new policy this year will be to provide special *weeknight rates* (Sunday-Thursday) from January 4 through Memorial Day and from Labor Day to December 31 — \$12 vs \$15, \$10 vs \$13 and \$3 vs \$11.

### BOARD

Age 13	\$12/DAY
Ages 8-12	\$9/DAY
Ages 4-7	\$6/DAY
Ages 3-	Free

## STAFF NEEDS FOR SUMMER 1981

Now is not too early to be thinking about spending 9-16 weeks next summer serving on *THE MOUNTAIN'S* hardworking staff. We'll be looking for a Cook, Asst. Cook, Waterfront Director and various assistants for the kitchen, maintenance, crafts, waterfront/athletics/horses and housekeeping. Most of the Assistant positions will provide opportunity for shifting of jobs during the summer to provide variety. If you're interested, contact Mo and Larry Wheeler, 1120 Gunnison Ct., Clarkston, GA 30021.

## WORK WEEKENDS NOW EVEN CHEAPER

To encourage increased volunteer work effort, the Board has approved the elimination of room charges for workers who agree to spend approximately 50% of their time assisting Steve Carter in his many projects. Start planning for winter and spring work periods and schedule them with the Wheelers.

## PREVIEW—1981 PROGRAMS

Plans are well along on next summer's programs and the complete brochure will be mailed in late January.

Already set are the Youth Camps which are scheduled as follows:

14-16 year olds	June 14-June 27
11-13 year olds	June 28-July 11
7-10 year olds	July 12-July 25

Rates for these two-week programs will be \$285 with a \$30 family discount for each additional child, regardless of which programs children attend.

Churches, Fellowships and individuals are encouraged to establish camperships to help send deserving youth to camp this summer.

## MAKE YOUR OWN MUSIC WEEKEND

—with Lee Knight

Lee Knight, our favorite folk singer, will host a "Make Your Own Music" weekend January 23-25, 1981. This program is limited to adults only. The total cost is \$55. Bring your own instruments, music, voices and ideas and help make *THE MOUNTAIN* come alive with music. There will also be opportunities for hiking and quiet time in front of the Lodge fireplace. To register, send name, address and phone number, plus \$20 per person to Mo and Larry Wheeler, 1120 Gunnison Ct., Clarkston, GA 30021.



Folklorist and balladier, Lee Knight, leads singing around the warm fire.

## TREASURERS' REPORT

The financial results from our first year were good versus overall projections at the beginning of the year. Even so, there are several areas which bear watching. The following is a recap of the 1980 Operating Statement:

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Operations	\$139,000	\$117,775
Pledges	100,000	94,018
Loan Proceeds	180,000	200,000
Total Income	\$419,000	\$411,793
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Board & Fund Raising	\$ 50,760	\$ 20,231
Operating Salaries	34,500	30,360
Other Operating	151,700	231,914
Capital Expenses	166,500	130,458
Total Expenses	\$403,460	\$412,963
Operating Net	15,540	(1,170)

Given the uncertainty of an initial budget, the overall income and expenses were surprisingly close. The areas which will be closely monitored are cash flow and operating revenue. The most pressing events are the semi-annual mortgage payments (\$40,000 each) due in April and October. We are looking forward to another successful year in 1981.

—Jim and Wendie Highsmith

## Just Confirmed!

The CBS TV movie, *The Mating Game* (filmed here on *THE MOUNTAIN*) will be shown:



## UUCA

1911 Cliff Valley Way, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 169  
Atlanta, Georgia

THIRD CLASS MAIL

Season's  
Greetings