

the mountain

HIGHLANDS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

841 Highway 106

Highlands, NC 28741

704/526-5838

Volume VI, No. 1

February, 1985

SUMMER STAFF APPLICATIONS

Applications for summer staff positions are ready. We need people in many different areas: counselors, nature, horses, waterfront, recreation, child care, kitchen, maintenance, office and a nurse. Write for an application. Completed applications are due by mid-March, with staff announcements scheduled for early April.

YEAR ROUND POSITIONS

THE MOUNTAIN has several year round or March to November staff positions available immediately in the areas of maintenance, food service, and office. Salary ranges are \$4,000-\$12,000, plus room, board, and an employee benefit plan. Contact Directors Mo and Larry Wheeler.



WRONG ADDRESS? DUPLICATES??

Please help us save money by letting us know of any address corrections or if you are receiving unnecessary duplicates of mailings from THE MOUNTAIN. We appreciate your help!

LARRY

MO

DIRECTORS' CORNER

Our first winter living on THE MOUNTAIN has been wonderful! We have loved every minute of the changing weather, from frost covered laurel to the 22° below zero that it reached in January! In contrast, December was so warm that we even went white-water canoeing. It has been our busiest winter so far, with more guests than ever on the holidays and weekends, and much to do during the week: planning the summer's program, getting out the brochure, getting camp forms ready, etc., etc.

The small staff here in the winter has felt very much like an extended family to us. We will miss our outings together to get pizza, see a movie, or go skiing, but will also welcome new additions to the staff as spring arrives. Our thanks to Nancy, Jake, John, Brian, Pat, Barbara, Duncan, Doug and Griff for helping to make our first winter so special.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, we'll be back from our vacation at Big Bend National Park in Texas. We're really looking forward to this time traveling, hiking, and canoeing together--with no guests! I guess a bus driver's holiday is driving a bus around the countryside without any passengers...Not that we don't love doing it with all of you--it's just nice to be alone, too.

One time when Brian was about 10 or 11, we told him we were going to take a vacation to Florida without him. He was not at all happy about being left behind and went upstairs to his room. A few minutes later, a paper airplane came flying down the stairwell, circled into the kitchen and landed at our feet. There was writing on it: "I know. You want to be alone."

SPRING WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

TRAINING FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP - MARCH 8-10

A workshop for RE Directors, RE Teachers, Youth Group Leaders, and prospective MOUNTAIN Staff Members--ages 18 and above. Learn THE MOUNTAIN's philosophy of working with youth and its application to youth programming within your own society.

The Program begins at 8:00 pm on Friday and continues through lunch on Sunday. The cost of \$72 includes room, board (Friday dinner to Sunday lunch), and materials. Child care will be provided for \$5 per youth. Leaders are Walt and Alicia Hodges, Mo Wheeler, and Nancy Suda from THE MOUNTAIN, and Shari Doar, TJ District RE Chair and DRE in Charlotte, NC.

A LOBSTER LOVER'S EASTER - APRIL 5-7

Celebrate this spring holiday with a feast of fresh Maine lobster or steak filet. Our Easter sunrise service is one of those special moments on THE MOUNTAIN. When you register, tell us how many lobsters or steaks you want at \$7.50 each (added to your regular board costs).

SPRING FLING - MAY 10-12

DJ Glen Rowley is bringing a complete professional light and sound show, so don't miss this fourth annual celebration of the coming of spring to THE MOUNTAIN! This year we've added a whitewater raft trip on Saturday for ages 10 and up (cost-\$19). We'll also have hikes and other special events, and our usual dancing into the wee hours of the night.

EARLY BIRD RAFTING - MAY 17-19

Come join us for an early Spring weekend on THE MOUNTAIN. Arrive Friday evening and on Saturday go rafting on parts of Section III and IV of the beautiful Chattooga River. Spend a lazy Sunday morning on THE MOUNTAIN, attend our worship service, and have lunch before heading for home again. Raft trip cost is \$19 extra.

LIFE MEMBERS' WEEKEND - MAY 24-27

Life Members...mark your calendars with these dates for our annual Memorial Day Weekend just for you. Arrive Friday and stay through Monday noon. A special mailing will be sent to remind you later in the spring, but you may go ahead and register now if you like.

OPEN WEEKENDS...

Bring yourself or your group for one of the weekends listed below, all of which have space available as we go to press:

March 1-3	March 29-31	May 3-5
March 22-24	April 19-21	May 17-19

WEEK LONG PROGRAMS

Look at these interesting Elderhostel programs that still have space available. We're offering them to UUs of all ages for the same low price of \$191. We encourage all ages to participate and help make it real intergenerational experience!

APRIL 20-26

READING ROCKS AND MEASURING TIME - A hands-on study of geological features in the vicinity of THE MOUNTAIN.

APPALACHIAN FOLK HISTORY - Explore the customs, traditions, stories, and music of the people of Appalachia with a local storyteller and folk singer.

DISCOVERING YOUR CREATIVE SELF - Choose one of the following: 1) Calligraphy, 2) Machine quilting, 3) Basketry.

APRIL 28-MAY 4

NATURAL HISTORY OF PLANTS OF APPALACHIA - We'll study all types of plants using slide shows, discussions and daily walks for field identification.

WHO-O-O-O IS THAT IN THE TREE? - Learn how to identify birds through sight or sound and learn about their territorial behaviors and habitats.

RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD - The religions of the Far East will be emphasized.

MAY 4-10

WHY SOCIAL PROBLEMS PERSIST - How traditional American values simultaneously support and subvert our efforts to eradicate national problems.

APPALACHIAN FOLK HISTORY - See April 20-26.

WILLIAM BARYTRAM'S AMERICA - Learn about the Cherokees, very early pioneers, and the many wonders, plant and mammal, that Bartram discovered in his travels through the surrounding area.

MAY 12-18

SHAPERS OF AMERICAN VALUES - How some of the lasting effects of the frontier, slavery, and immigration help explain what happened to the American Dream.

SOUTHERN WRITERS OF THE SHORT STORY - Explore the mind of the South through the works of some of the greatest short story writers of all time.

WHO-O-O-O IS THAT IN THE TREE? - See April 28

MAY 18-24

HUMANITY AND THE MOUNTAINS - We'll see our human interaction with climate, landform, soil, flora, and fauna, and identify many trees and plants.

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY - We'll look at environmental errors and learn how proper developmental care and planning can help insure environmental integrity.

STARS IN YOUR EYES--AND TELESCOPE - An introduction to the stars and planets, with special attention to the interaction between astronomy and religion.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

TO REGISTER

Send your name, address, phone number, first and last meals you plan to have with us, type of accommodations preferred, and a \$15 per adult deposit to: THE MOUNTAIN, 841 Highway 106, Highlands, NC 28741. Your deposit is refundable up to 3 weeks prior to arrival. For more details call 704/526-5838.

VIDEO SYSTEM EXPLORED

As we become more involved with conferences, we are finding requests for video equipment instead of 16mm equipment. Also, we are aware of how much cheaper video film rentals are than 16mm. Our hope is to find a way to obtain video equipment for use this summer, but before buying any, we wanted to see if some of you might be able to help us.

We need a $\frac{1}{2}$ " VHS VCR and 2-3 color televisions (as large a screen as possible). If you have any to donate, or might like to give us some money to help buy equipment, please contact THE MOUNTAIN.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE???

As summer approaches we have surveyed our equipment and vehicle needs. We'd love to have donations of any of the following:

Station wagons or vans	Backpacking equipment:
Beds and mattresses	Tents, stoves, day
Tables and lamps	packs, back packs
Sofas	Canoes and kayaks
Curtains	Paddles and life jackets

FROM THE MAINTENANCE DEPT.

The following are items from our Maintenance "Wish List." These are things we would like to have, and you may be in a position to donate. Remember donations to THE MOUNTAIN are tax deductible.

Concrete mixer	Hand truck/moving dolly
Small (farm type) tractor	Old copies of The Thomas
Drill Press	Register
Utility Trailer	Bench grinder
Electric motors	Battery charger
Aluminum extension ladders	Step ladder
Dump truck	Storm doors, solid doors

INTERESTED IN HIGHLANDS PROPERTY?

If so, write Jake Haun, c/o THE MOUNTAIN, for a questionnaire which will help us put you in touch with sellers having what you want.

THE MOUNTAIN Board met in Atlanta in January. In addition to having regular reports, we reviewed the guests' evaluations of the year's operation. The Long Range Plan is also being reviewed, goals prioritized, and an implementation plan is being developed. Walt Pirie will again head the Planning Committee.

Our thanks to SUUSI, who's donated \$2000 to THE MOUNTAIN. The organization that gave us our start continues to be a wonderful supporter.

The next meeting of THE MOUNTAIN Board is March 29-31 at THE MOUNTAIN.

Jake

Jake Haun
President



THANKS TO OUR NEWEST PATRONS...

Nancy Wylie - Atlanta, GA
Walt and Marcia Jenison - Chattanooga, TN
Charles E. Redfield - Juno Beach, FL
Laury Christie - Columbia, SC

...AND OUR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Myrl and Paul Burkholder - Greenville, SC
Lydia Dodge - West Palm Beach, FL
Alice Lassitor-Thorn - Nashville, TN
Gerhard and Virginia Sullivan - Charlotte, NC
Rolfe and Susan Gerhardt - Atlanta, GA
Don and Carolyn Marshall - Greenville, SC
Donald L. Marshall - Atlanta, GA
Daniel C. Webster - Bethlehem, GA

ADVENTURES ON THE MOUNTAIN

For some, the drive to the top of THE MOUNTAIN is an adventure! For others, it takes an exciting trip on the Chattooga River. This summer THE MOUNTAIN has a wide range of adventures to challenge your individual level of skill, fitness, and definition of "adventure".

For families, there are "Adventures for All Ages", with plenty of space available during the weeks starting July 7th and July 28th. The week of July 7th will feature a morning workshop on the history, geology and folklore of the Chattooga River, with a variety of afternoon hiking and rafting on and along the river.

The week of July 28th has a special emphasis on intergenerational programming with Mike and Terry McGee returning for their 6th successful summer!

For those who want the highest adventure, there is Dare To Explore (August 4-10), a day program with opportunities to challenge yourself in technical rock climbing, canoeing, kayaking, and rafting; and adventure hiking with map and compass.

For those over 50 who aren't sure how much adventure is enough, there's "Just Because You're Over 50 Doesn't Mean You Can't" (August 24-30). This week features ways of experiencing our natural environment in a safe and enjoyable manner that is geared to each person's abilities.

So, there are adventures for all! Which one will make your '85 summer the one you'll never forget??

THE MOUNTAIN GOES INTERNATIONAL

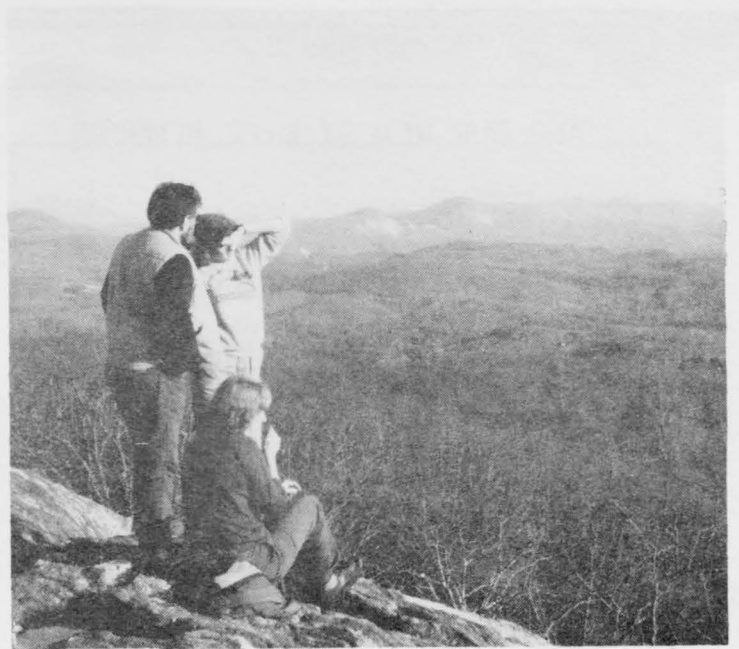
If you visit THE MOUNTAIN on Sunday, June 23, or during the week of August 10-17, you may well hear the distinctive sounds of British accents.

We're delighted that our guest minister on Sunday, June 23, (right after General Assembly) will be Dr. Roy W. Smith, General Secretary of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches in Great Britain. He also is President of the International Association for Religious Freedom.

August 10-17, Roy's Deputy General Secretary, Christine Hayhurst and Eleanor Dixon, Secretary of the British Lay Training Subcommittee, will join the other participants at THE MOUNTAIN'S Fourth Annual Leadership School. Welcome!

LET YOUR CREATIVITY OUT OF THE BAG

The week of June 30 to July 6 offers a variety of opportunities to express your creative self, including Hand Letterpress Printing, Creative Machine Quilting, Japanese Papermaking, Brass Ensemble and Improving Your Travel Photography. And, you can enjoy the rhododendron at the same time.



PLAN AHEAD FOR FALL VISITS

Oktoberfest (October 4-6) - Our Annual Fall Party Weekend complete with German food, drinks, and music. Separate festivities for children.

THE MOUNTAIN'S Annual Meeting (November 1-3) - A great time for annual and life members to get together and learn what has/is/will be happening at THE MOUNTAIN. Hikes, parties, and Life Member rates for all (room at 50% off!)

Thanksgiving (November 27-December 1) - A special time for Life Members only. Invitations will be mailed in September, but mark your calendars now.

TO REGISTER

(Except Thanksgiving)

Send your name, address, phone number, first and last meals you plan to have with us, type of accommodations preferred, and \$15 per adult (for weekends) or \$65 per adult (for summer programs) deposit to: THE MOUNTAIN, 841 Highway 106, Highlands, NC 28741. Your deposit is refundable up to 3 weeks prior to arrival. For more details call 704-526-5838.
