



the mountain

HIGHLANDS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

841 Highway 106

Highlands, NC 28741

704/526-5838

Vol. 2, No. 1

Members Newsletter

September 1986

Director's Corner

The day was gloomy with thick fog and rain. My muscles were sore from wrestling with the wheel of the long U-Haul truck. But coming around a curve there were signs which read "Welcome Karla", "Jeremy: School Starts Today", and "Gary - Death Curve". Nearing the Dining Hall the kitchen staff smiled and waved to us. At the top Chris, Shane, Steve, Ed and Jake eagerly helped us unload. We found flowers on tables, cards and gifts, and baskets filled with fruit and homemade cookies. It seemed like a homecoming and we are welcome here. We are thankful for the thoughtfulness of the staff of THE MOUNTAIN and we are eager to serve you.

A special word of thanks to Ed Heath who has served THE MOUNTAIN as Acting Director and is now our Business Manager. The work of THE MOUNTAIN has continued to operate smoothly under his leadership. He continues to offer dependable leadership and has been most patient with me in my orientation to THE MOUNTAIN.

There was a man in Paris during the 1848 revolution who saw a friend marching after a crowd toward the barricades. Warning him that these could not be held against the troops, that he had better keep away, he asked him why he followed those people. The friend replied, "I must follow them, I am their leader." THE MOUNTAIN is a bulwark of opportunity; it is a bastion of challenge; it is a fortress of creativity. And so, my dear friends - to the future!



Dr. Gary Blaine

INSTALLATION BANQUET UPDATE

If you're thinking THE MOUNTAIN annual meeting might not be on top of your list of fun things for the Fall social season, read on!

This year the weekend of November 7, 8, & 9 will not only have an unusually exciting annual meeting with the presentation of the Long Range Plan after two years of hard committee work, but the foremost social event of the season happens on Saturday night.

Brydie Palmore and Walt Hodges have planned THE MOUNTAIN's first Gala Banquet and Installation to celebrate and acknowledge the appointment of Gary Blaine as our new director. The affair will be complete with our own Pam Phelps, the founder and director of our youth camp program and the creator of the Creative Preschool in Tallahassee, as the main speaker.

As master of ceremonies, that wit of Unitarian Universalism, one of the denomination's leading ministers, John Burciaga. John is especially delighted to be with us on this auspicious occasion since Gary became a UU under his tutelage at the Clearwater, FL Church and was in fact ordained a UU minister by the Clearwater congregation.

The schedule is:

Friday, Nov. 7 - Arrival & ingathering

Saturday, Nov. 8- Hikes & MOUNTAIN activities
Board meets until Annual Mtg.

* Annual Meeting- Election results for At-Large
Board position
Long Range Plan presentation

* Evening Events- Reception, Banquet, Installation and Dance

Sunday, Nov. 9 - Worship Service

*Child care and dinner will be provided in the Lodge for younger children on Saturday from the time of the Annual Meeting through the formal banquet and dance.

fall/winter calendar

OCT. 3-5 NORTHWEST FALL WEEKEND

Members of the NW UU Church of Atlanta will be on THE MOUNTAIN to rest and recreate. This is the beginning of our "leaf season" and should be a gorgeous time to visit. Even if you're not a "Northwesterner" come on up.

OCT. 10-12 OKTOBERFEST

At this writing our weekend of German food, fun and flowing brew is already booked solid. However, we are still accepting registrations for our waiting list. Changes of plan and cancellations are commonplace, so if you'd like to come, send your registration now to insure a place near the head of the waiting list.

OCT. 12-17 "FLORIDA WEEK"

At the height of the Fall color season, the Vero Beach, Melbourne, Ft. Pierce Fellowships retreat will be joined by other UUs from around Florida for a very special week of programming that includes a short course in mountain ecology, Appalachian folk music and tales, a Cherokee Indian program and field trip, and a UU Heritage and Values course taught by our own Gary Blaine. Limited Category 3 space is still available, so register today.

OCT. 17-19 CAROLINAS CHURCH RETREAT

UUs from the Winston-Salem, NC and Clemson, SC areas will meet on THE MOUNTAIN this weekend to enjoy the Indian Summer at its "height". But everyone is welcome - register early.

OCT. 24-26 "LAST CHANCE" FALL COLOR WEEKEND

The end of October brings us bright, clear days of crisp weather and hills splashed with color. The Columbia UU Church will be here on retreat--join them and us as we say goodbye to Autumn.

OCT. 31-NOV. 2 HALLOWE'EN

If you know mountain folklore, you know that these old hills are populated by witches, "haints", and spirits of crag and woodland. They'll all be out in force for our annual Halloween costume party to be held Saturday night, Nov. 1st. Don't miss your chance to commune with the things that go BUMP in the night!

NOV. 7-9 ANNUAL MEETING & INSTALLATION BANQUET

This year the serious tone of the Annual Meeting will be tempered somewhat as we officially welcome Gary Blaine and his family to THE MOUNTAIN with speechifying, champagne toasts and fabulous food. If you have not already registered for this important weekend, please do it now, as we expect a capacity crowd.

NOV. 26-30 THANKSGIVING LIFE MEMBERS HOLIDAY

See the invitation on page 3 of this newsletter for details and a registration form; and consider coming early for the weekend of Nov. 21-22!

DECEMBER....

can be a lonesome time up here on THE MOUNTAIN, and we'd like to see more of our members and friends! Never mind the weather--you'll find us warm and welcoming. The winter air is crystalline, the stars and views their clearest. It's a good time to get to know staff members and share evenings around the fire. Work weekends and ski weekends can still be scheduled--if your group is interested, call us for more details.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS

From the winter solstice on Dec. 21st through New Year's Day, there'll be merrymaking on THE MOUNTAIN-top. Our extended family of staff, members and friends will celebrate together in ways old & new. Join us for as much time as you can--if not for the actual holidays, as a stopover on your holiday travels. New Year's Eve we promise you a rollicking good time that is also safe and sane.

NOTE: One added bonus in all our weekend programs this season is that, for the first time, we have a minister in residence! Gary Blaine's arrival means that now THE MOUNTAIN can offer worship services year-round, giving added substance to your retreat or holiday. THE MOUNTAIN has always been a special place for UUs for fun, friends and food. Now we can add year-round fellowship to that list.



Thanksgiving

CELEBRATION
FOR
LIFE MEMBERS



Once again, it is time to invite all Life Members and their families to our Thanksgiving festivities, which will begin Wednesday, November 26 and continue through Sunday morning, November 30. The traditional Thanksgiving "Seder", hikes, movies, and the "Your Lost Is Our Found Auction" will make for an exciting weekend, culminating in a special Sunday worship service by Gary Blaine.

PLEASE NOTE: As in previous years, all postmarks of Oct. 15 and earlier will be considered equally, and priority will be given to individuals staying the full time. Mail the form below with your check to The Mountain.

REGISTRATION FORM

Adults: 1. _____ M F ADDRESS _____
2. _____ M F _____
3. _____ M F zip _____

Youth 1. _____ M F PHONE (____) _____
(age) _____
2. _____ M F (____) _____
(age) _____
3. _____ M F _____
(age) _____

Anticipated Arrival _____ for _____
(first meal you plan to eat with us)

Anticipated Departure _____ for _____
(last meal you plan to eat with us)

ROOM PREFERENCE (Rank Order)

- ____ Lodge (Double Occupancy)-winterized & heated
 - ____ Lodge (Dormitory Style) winterized & heated
 - ____ 2-Bedroom Cabin (6 per cabin) winterized & heated
 - ____ 1 Bedroom Cabin (4-5 per cabin) unwinterized, but heated (possibly without water)
 - ____ 1 Bedroom Cabin (2-4 per cabin) unheated, unwinterized and possibly without water
- (cross out any alternatives you are unwilling to consider!)

People you would like to room with _____

Special Needs/Requests _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE A \$15 PER ADULT DEPOSIT TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE FOR THE WEEKEND (Non-refundable after November 1st) AND SEND TO: THE MOUNTAIN, 841 HWY 106, HIGHLANDS, NC 28741

ADULT RATES for Room, Board and Registration

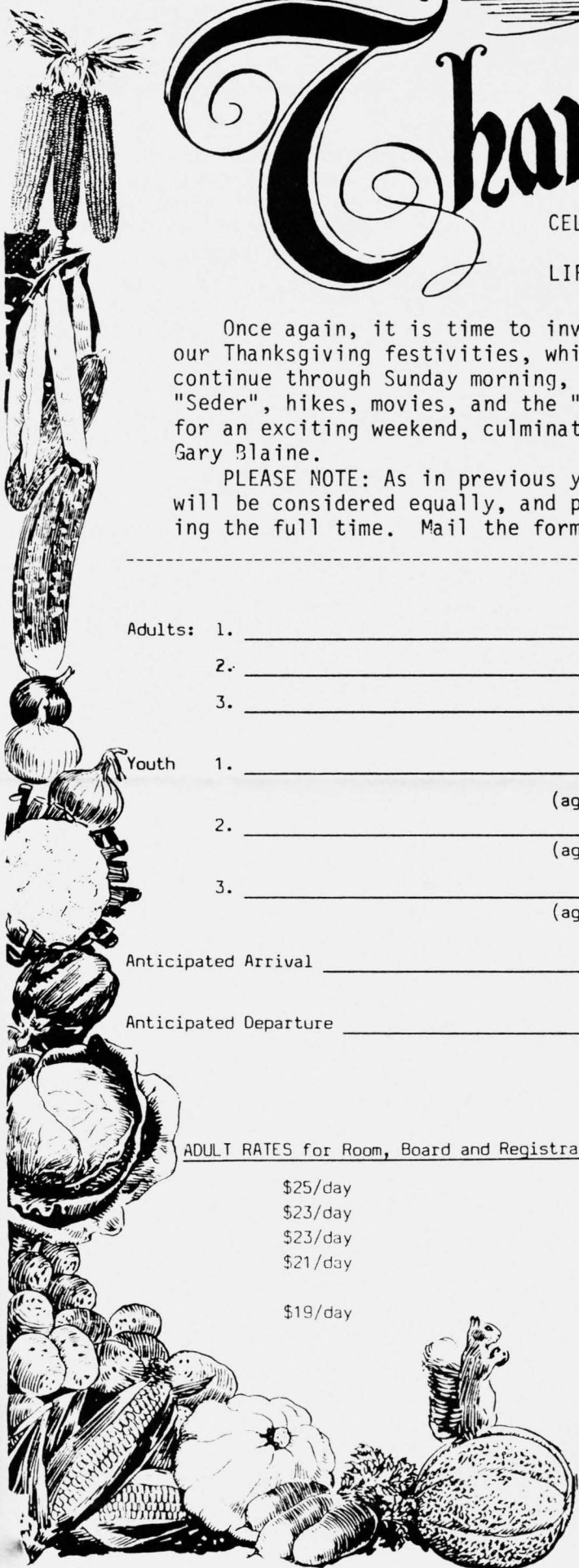
\$25/day

\$23/day

\$23/day

\$21/day

\$19/day



THANKS TO YOU...

A great big THANK YOU to the many members who have responded so generously to our need for additional cash to make the Fall mortgage payment this year. People are paying up back amounts, paying next year's commitment now, increasing their pledges, and just plain giving some extra.

With the good response so far we are nearly half-way to our goal; but obviously we still need your help. When you receive one of our letters asking for help, please give it serious consideration.

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Preliminary plans for the Retirement Community continue to move forward with representatives of the Board and Planning Committee visiting several retirement centers in the next several months.

We have contacted several UU retirement communities including Emerson Place in Texas and two national retirement management companies with blue-chip reputations who are willing to be very helpful.

Interest continues to grow, so watch our Newsletters for more developments and drop us a postcard if you would like to be on the Retirement Community mailing list.

The Nominating Committee under the leadership of Bob Winchester has nominated Anne Robison and Walt Jenison for the Board At-Large vacancy and Chris Foreman for the Nominating Committee opening.

Nomination of candidates may also be done by petition. Anyone desiring to run should send a petition signed by 10 UUs or 3 UU Societies. The nominees should be members of THE MOUNTAIN and Southeast UU Societies. The petitions must be received at THE MOUNTAIN by October 10th. Ballots will be mailed out by October 17th and may be mailed back or delivered but must be received by 2 pm on November 8th. Petitions and ballots should be returned to THE MOUNTAIN marked "Attn: Secretary of The Board".

MOUNTAINSHARE PROJECT

Returns from a small sample "questionnaire to perfect the questionnaire" indicates strong interest in our MOUNTAINSHARE Plan. As currently envisioned the Plan would provide THE MOUNTAIN a meeting room and 42 weeks per year of 8 suites. The 10 members who finance each unit would get 1 week per year use in return for their investment. All members will be polled after the sample questionnaire is revised.

THE MOUNTAIN
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FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

