



The Mountain Matters

THE MOUNTAIN RETREAT & LEARNING CENTERS, INC.

April 2000



Annual Meeting Edition

P

aul Rogat Loeb, writes in his book, *Soul of A Citizen*, "We like to find ways to connect with each other and express our compassion, experiencing a sense of purpose impossible to attain through private pursuits alone. When we don't find ways to voice this larger self, our most generous impulses have nowhere to go." Loeb captures in these words how many have said they feel about their support of **The Mountain** — connections with each other and with this place give our generous impulses of time and commitment a worthwhile place to go. All of us are involved in the many issues of today and need a worthwhile place to go, one that *"embraces the diversity of life, creating an environment to energize people to work for positive change,"* a place committed to working for social justice. Marian Wright Edelman calls this social investment, "the rent we pay for living." What an exciting place this is and what an opportune time we have, all of us, to move **The Mountain** in meaningful ways — to pay "the rent for living."

Our capital improvements continue, our programs are becoming more and more transformative, guests more and more diverse, food more exciting, and visions more achievable. And last year's purchase of the 12-acres of cabbage patch land opened significant new opportunities for **The Mountain Retreat & Learning Centers**. The **Retreat Center** is actively developing strategic plans to grow their program offerings in meaningful ways — youth, adventures, seniors, environmental studies, spiritual awakenings. **Milestone Learning Center** is embracing and energizing young people from communities all over this country as they work to create systemic change through ethical leadership. The **Learning Center for Leadership**, which launched its first-of-a-kind multi-district videoconference training last month, is developing plans to be a truly relevant learning organization serving Unitarian Universalists and people of other liberal religious communities in their pursuit of effective religious/social leadership. And the **Residential Center** is carefully studying options as it prepares to become a community like no other,

President's Report

committed to healthy, active living for its staff, volunteers and retirees, all invested in working for positive social change in the world.

In addition to programs, facilities and budgets we are busy building our plans to develop the new property at the base. We are

undertaking soil, biological and archeological studies, planning water and waste systems, roadways and building sites. All require a lot of work but are so necessary to the proper, planned development of the area.



Aerial photo of The Mountain showing our new Cabbage Patches.

I share all of this with you in the hope that you will make your plans now to be with us Memorial/Member weekend (see related article on Page 4). In addition to the Annual Meeting, we will review the strategic plans for all of the centers, listen closely to your concerns, ideas and questions, tour the base and look at a 3-dimensional model for potential development of the entire property. We will also have a session on "The Mountain and Unitarian Universalism," a

Continues on Page 3

Report of the Board Leadership Committee

To: All Current Members and Eligible Donors of MR&LCs
From: MR&LCs Board of Trustees
 Board Leadership Committee
Ed Mangiafico, Chair

Governance of **The Mountain Retreat & Learning Centers, Inc.** is the responsibility of its Board of Trustees. This board has the responsibility for ensuring that the institution operates in support of its Mission and Core values, establishing and ensuring compliance with Board management policies and for setting the long-term strategic direction of the organization. In addition, they are responsible for selecting, supervising and assessing the performance of the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. Trustees are not involved in the day-to-day operation of MR&LCs.

The current bylaws call for the election of two voting trustees each year. This election is accomplished by an affirmative majority vote of those members voting in such an election. It is the trustees' responsibility, through the Board Leadership Committee, to actively recruit qualified candidates for these positions annually and to present them to the membership for election. As MR&LCs continues to grow and in the process take on more responsibilities (programmatic, financial), trusteeship becomes more and more important. It is

vital to this institution's long-term success that trustee positions be filled with individuals who have a broad range of skills, a deep commitment to MR&LCs' mission and vision, and who have the time and energy to devote to the work.

At its first meeting of the year on February 20, 2000, the Board Leadership Committee recommended and the full Board accepted the following two (2) candidates for presentation to the membership to be elected to the Board of Trustees for three-year terms each, beginning May 28, 2000. They are **Hildegard Gray** of Atlanta, Georgia (former Board Member and Board Chair) and **Dorothy Senghas** of Burlington, Vermont (serving for the first time). We believe these two candidates have the needed skills, energy and commitment to the mission and values of MR&LCs and to the work of trusteeship to merit your affirmative vote. The full Board of Trustees highly recommends a "YES" vote for BOTH nominees.

As for voting, please fill out the ballot (see next page) and mail it to the Corporate Secretary as noted. Per Bylaw 5.1, "All mail ballots must be received by the Secretary no later than ten (10) days prior to the Annual Meeting." That makes the due date this year May 17, 2000. Please vote!

Respectfully Submitted,
 Ed Mangiafico
 Chair, Board Leadership Committee

All Mountain members and donors should plan to join us for this very special Memorial Day Weekend. Together we'll experience music, nature, visions of the future, work projects, art, crafts, worship, and the Annual Meeting.

Members & Donors Weekend Memorial Day 2000, May 26 – May 29 Annual Meeting, May 27 – 7:30 p.m.

As highlight events, **Mountainsong Chamber Musicians** will again be performing:

Friday evening: "A Night at the Opera"
 Saturday afternoon: "Going for Baroque"
 Sunday afternoon: "An American Sampler"

Art programs and craft projects will be offered for youth and others wanting to create a memory of **The Mountain** to take home.

As always you'll enjoy wonderful food and lots of **Moun-**

tain family fellowship. Saturday we'll meet at the base of **The Mountain** for a Saturday afternoon barbecue with all the fixins' and fun of a picnic. On Sunday, the annual early morning memorial service will be held in the Memorial Garden honoring Life Members who have died during the past year. Following breakfast we'll join together for worship with the **Rev. Mary Katherine Morn** from First Unitarian Universalist Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

Don't miss hearing the BIG plans for **The Mountain's** future. You'll be the first to see a model of the proposed development for our newly purchased 12 acres of land at the base. Also, attend a workshop on planning for the Residential and Retirement Communities.

Two-night Option:

Friday, May 26 – Sunday, May 28 after lunch
 Adults \$126-\$148, Youth \$20-\$57

Three-night Option:

Friday, May 26 – Monday, May 29 after breakfast
 Adults \$162-\$190, Youth \$20-\$67

President's Report – Continued from page 1

chance for us to share with you the initiatives we are pursuing with the UUA, other UU organizations, and the way in which the UU Purposes and Principles are fulfilled through all of our programs. It will be a meaningful weekend and I hope you can be a part of it.

One more request: Please take time to vote for the two Trustee candidates that are being put forward in this election. Qualified, energetic Trustees are really important to our ongoing success. I am very pleased with the two candidates who have agreed to serve and ask that you show them your support by voting for them. In advance of your vote, thank you

for being involved.

The Mountain is a wonderful place to connect with one another, to express compassion, and to experience a sense of purpose. And, **The Mountain** affords us all the opportunity to invest in the larger community by working together for positive social change — “paying the rent for living.” Be active participants this year, not detached spectators in your communities, your places of work and at **The Mountain**, for in so doing, your lives, in the words of Paul Loeb, “will become charged with purpose.” We want to see and hear from you.

Tom
President

Meet The Nominees

Hildegarde Gray

Having previously served on **The Mountain's** board, two years as its Chair, I have a good understanding of the time required to do the work and the exciting benefits that come to trustees by being involved in the business of The Mountain Retreat & Learning Centers, Inc. I am currently employed at Bell South as head of the Business Analysis and Consulting Services group in the Information Technologies organization. I believe that my work experiences will be of real value to **The Mountain** and especially to the development of the Learning Center for Leadership. Most importantly, my husband John Vacher, who has given many volunteer hours to **The Mountain** over these years, and I believe in **The Mountain**, its vision and its potential. I especially want to contribute my time and energies now so that to the extent possible, I can help secure **The Mountain's** future for my new granddaughter who will be ready to attend Beginning Camp in the year 2006.

Dorothy Senghas

Although I have not been to **The Mountain** yet, I have read and heard about it from many sources and believe that its mission, values and visions and the work it does are im-

portant to the Unitarian Universalist movement. My professional experiences include teaching at the high school level and Teaching Assistant at UC Davis. I served as Director of the Simmons College Library, as Head of Serials in the University of Vermont Library and as head of Technical Services in the Dana Medical Library at the University of Vermont until I retired in 1992. In addition, I have been very active in UU fellowships serving as an RE instructor, adult advisor, ministerial relations committee member, canvas co-chair, Vice-President of the Board and Chair of the Council. I also served as President of the Board of the Vermont Civil Liberties Union, a founding member of the Zen Affiliate of Vermont and a member of the Hemlock Society. My husband Bob and I have three sons and four grandchildren. I believe that all of my experiences have benefited me, developing my skills as a passionate worker for UU values and as an effective board member of any organization I have been asked to serve. As a retired person, I am in a position to commit whatever time is required to fulfill the responsibilities of trusteeship, as well as additional time to work as a volunteer in other areas of **The Mountain's** life as I may be called upon to do. I look forward to serving on your board.



(All Mountain Members plus Donors who have given at least \$50 in the past year are eligible to vote)

You may vote for no more than two candidates for MR&LCs Trustees. Indicate your vote with an “x” below:

☐ Hildegarde Gray

☐ Dorothy Senghas

Detach and return to the following address before May 17, 2000:

Jeri Moulder, Secretary
The Mountain Retreat & Learning Centers, Inc.
1623 Las Canoas Road • Santa Barbara, CA 93105

From the Retreat Center Director: *a View from the Summit*

As Eileen and I are settling into our roles here at the Retreat Center, we are increasingly aware of the wonder and the opportunities of **The Mountain**. Two recent conversations with **Mountain** staff summarized how we are feeling about being here — one said “it seems like you have been here forever,” and the other said, “wow, has it really been that long?”

As I'm writing this, I am aware that it was only 14 weeks ago that we arrived on **The Mountain**, ready to move into our new home in the remodeled Emerson house (if you have not seen it, please come and visit us). It was 12 weeks ago that I began work as the Retreat Center Director. We have seen almost every kind of weather, from snow and ice to warm spring-like days, from 40 mile-per-hour winds to torrential rains, etc. Those of you who have spent much time here know what we mean. Every day has a special kind of beauty all its own — a constant reminder of how special this place is.

How are we doing? If the question is “what?” there are as many answers as there have been guests. It was energizing to see the dedication of the MR&LCs Board of Trustees when they met here in February. Working with the tireless, selfless staff to get more than 120 people safely off **The Mountain** and home after the Junior High Con was a highlight I will long remember. We have added some outstanding people to the staff (see the “Welcome” article) and continue to look for one or two more — a sales/marketing person and another cook, at least — to complete our team. I had the opportunity to lead the worship service for the Ambassador

weekend (with a lot of help), and was once again reminded of the importance of volunteers to our life here at **The Mountain**. (A few did ask about my Baptist background that I mentioned in the last issue of **The Mountain Matters** — I neglected to add that we have been UUs for 18 years and counting.)

Eileen, too, has been busy — leading art workshops for the Junior High Con, an Elderhostel session, and a staff in-service training session. She will be doing at least three more in the next few weeks, and she welcomes visitors to her art studio in our home.

There is so much to do to meet our vision and goals, of course. As the Millennium Plan moves forward to develop the Cabbage Patch and grow MR&LCs programs and services, the Retreat Center will be developing a new strategic plan as well. We will focus on improving what is already working well, and developing more and better programs for the future. For this year, I hope to plan more events focused on personal and spiritual growth, on diversity, and on making better use of (and protecting) our wonderful outdoor facilities and environment.

I have said previously, but want to say again, please let us hear from you. No comment, whether about programs and strategies or food and the cabins, is unimportant. Only with your input can we continue to be the Retreat Center you want us to be. We want you to keep coming back — and to invite others as well.

See you at **The Mountain**.



Bob MacDicken

Volunteer Highlights – Continued from page 11

- **We want to add YOU to our volunteer rolls.** Give a gift of your time and talents, experience our day-to-day operation, and get to know the staff — it also gives us a chance to get to know you, too.
- **Lodging and meals are provided** in return for your work (4 hours a day covers lodging and another 4 hours in a day takes care of meals).
- **It's easy to arrange.** If you can schedule enough time to make you feel it is worth the trip, you are ready to make plans. It will be necessary to match you with available work, but if you are flexible, we can place you in a job.

See listing for current needs at right.

Contact **Robert E. Smith, Ext. 227** or by mail or email. He will work with you to make your volunteer visit a reality. Once you have experienced volunteering, you will add an inspiring dimension to your relationship with **The Mountain**.

CURRENT NEEDS

- **Food Service** — We currently have a crucial need for volunteers to help us in Food Service, particularly if you have cooking skills and experience.
- **Facilities** — We always have a need for volunteers who are skilled in construction and building trades as we make progress on our renovation work.

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(828) 526-5838 • fax (828) 526-2511
e-mail: mountain@dnet.net • www.mrlc.org

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS — Spring - Summer 2000

Out of the Ordinary Elderhostels for UUs

Women's Elderhostel

Sunday – Friday, May 14 – 19

Get in touch with your daughters, adult granddaughters, or other special women in your life and bring them to the Women's Elderhostel. This is a week of hands-on activities that will explore the woman's role in the culture of the rugged southern mountains and her influence on hearth and home. Beginning with early Native American culture, learn about the medicine woman and the many uses of plants by the Appalachian settlers. Practice the ancient craft of finger weaving, decorate your clothing with Cherokee leaf printing, and experience the "busy hands" of mountain women through varied activities and a trip to Foxfire Museum. Cost is **\$370**, and includes all programming, meals and lodging. To register, call toll-free 1-877-426-8056. Program #33272-0514-1



Wealth of the Appalachians Elderhostel **Sunday – Friday, June 4 – 9**

Here is an opportunity to immerse yourself in the history, culture, folklore and natural areas of our mountaintop here in the Southern Appalachians. Explore early Indian and Cherokee history, and discover the roots of the white pioneers who settled the area. Visit Foxfire Museum and Tallulah Gorge natural areas, and delight in the folklore of the area through native folksongs, stories and a campfire with marshmallows. If you have never been to Elderhostel at **The Mountain**, this is a great week to start. Cost is **\$370**, and includes all programming, meals and lodging. To register, call toll-free 1-877-426-8056. Program #33272-0604-1

Don't miss out on these Summer Family Programs

FamilyCamp

Sunday – Friday, July 2 – 7, 2000

Always popular, an opportunity for families to go to camp together. Families will experience typical "camp" activities — boating and swimming at the lake; community building within and between families on the Challenge Course; an INTER-dependence Day celebration; field day of cooperative, non-competitive games; arts and crafts; folk dancing, campfire, singing; hiking, nature study; rock sliding into a river; and rafting* or tubing*. Take time to enjoy each other at the peak of our cool mountain summer. Come for the whole week or a few days.

Cost: Adult: 1-day – \$69-\$79; 5-day – \$305-\$360

Youth (4–17) 1-day – \$27; 5-day – \$121;

Youth 0-3 free

Grandparent/Grandchild Adventure Week

Sunday – Friday, July 16 – 21, 2000

This week is designed for grandparents and grandchildren to spend quality time together, building relationship and creating lifetime memories. You'll share the riches of a mountain camp community with crafts, music, evening campfire, hiking, and whitewater rafting* on the Nantahala River or tubing* a local stream.

Our expert Adventure staff will

assure safety and enjoyment of the trails and rivers with pre-hiking and paddling instruction. **Doris Gove**, naturalist and children's author, will explore Appalachia's natural habitats and wildlife in the field through hands-on experiences. **Lee Knight**, folk-singer and storyteller, will teach and regale us with stories and songs.

Cost: Adults: \$365; Youth (8 and above): \$250

* Rafting is an extra \$32 per person;
Tubing is an extra \$12 per person.



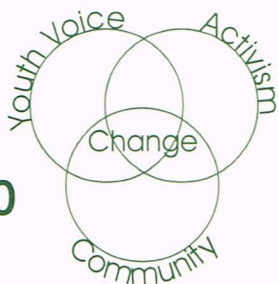
MILESTONE LEARNING CENTER

Leadership School Social Justice

July 29 - August 4, 2000

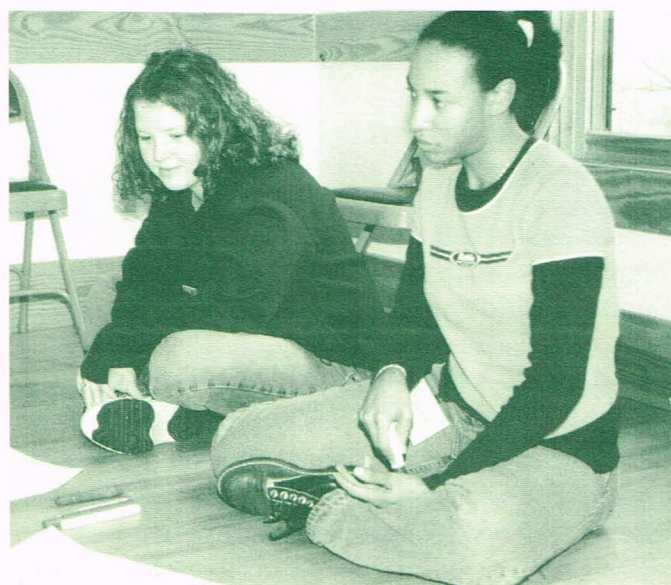
\$388 (Scholarships available)

Rising 10th Graders through
2000 Graduates



Leadership School for Social Justice is an opportunity for rising 10th graders through 2000 graduates to explore their potential as leaders in their communities. Youth and young adults have an important role to play in social change – whether it's in your school, your town or congregation. Leadership School is for lots of different types of people – those who are already deeply involved in community service or activist work and those who want to begin to understand what social action is all about. The common thread among all of us is that we envision a better world and we want to sharpen our skills to help make it happen.

- Scholarships are available!!
- Engaging, interactive workshops on leadership and social action
- Community service
- Hear from various people about their activist work
- Outdoor adventure
- Time to get to know one another and have FUN



"Leadership School was where I was first inspired to become involved in many of the issues with which I am involved today. It has also proved an invaluable resource to me as I have progressed in my activism, through both the experiences it created and the experiences its leaders shared."

Geoff Boyce
Leadership School '97 participant

For more information, contact **Sarah Walls** at **Ext. 241** or e-mail her at mountain@dnet.net (subject line: Sarah).

Change

REGISTRATION FORM

Use separate form (photocopy) for each participant.

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

July 29 – August 4, 2000

\$388 (Scholarships Available)


MILESTONE
 LEARNING CENTER

 P.O. Box 1299
 Highlands, NC 28741-1299
 (828) 526-5838 • Fax (828) 526-2511

Participant's Full Name _____

Birthdate _____ Age as of May 1, 2000 _____ Grade 9/00 _____ Gender M F

Home Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

 Who lives with Participant at above address? Father ☐ Mother ☐ Guardian ☐

Names of Father _____ Day Phone (____) _____

Parents/Guardians:

Mother _____ Day Phone (____) _____

Siblings' Names _____ Gender M F

_____ Gender M F

_____ Gender M F

 Check T-Shirt size needed: Child — S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ Adult — S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐

If participant has divorced/separated parents or another situation resulting in a second home, please fill out the alternate parent information below. Otherwise, skip this section.

Alternate Parent's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Evening Phone (____) _____

Who is responsible for fees?

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NO REGISTRATION / RESERVATION WITHOUT DEPOSIT

A \$150 deposit for each participant is required to hold space for each program.

Your check is preferred. VISA and MasterCard can also be used by carefully printing card number and expiration date and signing below. The deposit will be deducted from the total amount due.

DEPOSIT IS NON-REFUNDABLE

VISA or MasterCard only: Signature of Cardholder _____

Printed Name of Cardholder _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____ Amount \$ _____

Received \$

Date Rec'd:

Data Entered:

Confirmation mailed:

gifts
since
last
issue

Our profound thanks to . . .

Frasier Magnolia Vision Holders (\$50,000 - \$74,999)

Harry & Rene Donavon, McKinney, TX

White Oak Vision Holders (\$35,000 - \$49,999)

Bob & Sue Whitney, Decatur, GA

Chinquapin Vision Holders (\$25,000 - \$34,999)

Frony Ward & Allan Morgan, Knoxville, TN

Rhododendron Vision Holders (\$20,000 - \$24,999)

Susan & Robert E. Smith, Highlands, NC

Flame Azalea Vision Holders (\$10,000 - \$14,999)

Barbara & Ron Buck, Norfolk, VA

Arnold & Marjorie Gelbin, Winston-Salem, NC

Ed & Jean Mangiafico, Borrego Springs, CA

John Rakestraw & Mary Katherine Morn,
Nashville, TN

Patron Members (\$5,000+)

Kay & Stu Fors, Athens, GA

Life Members (\$1,600 - \$2,000)

John Forest Hilyer, Atlanta, GA

Harm & Marian Kraai, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Rentz Hilyer & Mair McCafferty, Washington, DC

Ticie & Tom Rhodes, Knoxville, TN

Cabbage Patch Land Purchase (Gifts of \$250+)

(NOTE: Gifts of \$1,000+ are shown with an ** symbol)

Peggy Beard, Decatur, GA **

Gretchen Bremer-Hosken, Port Orange, FL **

Tom Chulak, Englewood, NJ

Kaisy & Tom Fowler, Lewisville, NC

Walt & Sara Johnson, Southfield, MI **

Charles Kimpel, Durham, NC

Ticie & Tom Rhodes, Knoxville, TN

Kay Giese & David Sweat, Athens, GA **

Elizabeth Townshed, unknown **

Chad & Gail Wick, Cincinnati, OH **

General Fund (Gifts of \$250+)

Harm & Marian Kraai, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Chase Robinson, San Antonio, TX

Harry Savage, Knoxville, TN

Milestone Learning Center (Gifts of \$250+)

Dan Zavan, Cincinnati, OH

In Memoriam

Oddy Curtiss

Oak Ridge, TN

Virginia Parker Dillon

Athens, GA

Have you included The Mountain in your estate plan?

If you have and aren't sure that we know this, please let us know now. If you haven't, consider doing so with a planned gift to either **The Mountain** or **The Mountain's** Endowment Fund.

Your planned gift could be a bequest in your will (which can easily be accomplished through a codicil), a future donation during your lifetime, or a Charitable Remainder Trust.

Contact **Larry Wheeler** at **Ext. 230** for more information.

Life Membership can be Painless Giving

To become a Life Member of **The Mountain** costs \$2,000 with a single payment or \$2,500 paid within 5 years. Of course, **The Mountain** is happy to accept the \$2,000 payment from those who can afford to do it that way. The cash always helps.

For many people, however, their only option is the multi-year payment of \$2,500. They've found it to be quite affordable when they make quarterly payments of \$125 or monthly payments of \$41.67.

What helps even more is that **The Mountain** is able to deduct those payments directly from an individual's checking account and the donor doesn't need to write any checks. If a credit card is more convenient, regular deductions can be done with that as well.

Why become a Life Member?? From **The Mountain's** perspective, it is Life Members (and those who give even more) whose regular support helps ensure that **The Mountain** fulfills its mission for generations to come. To the donor there are some wonderful benefits: a handsome **Mountain** label pin, name placed on a beautiful wooden plaque, discounts on lodging, youth camps and occasional programs. Thanksgiving is reserved for Life Members and their families at no charge, and Memorial Day is reserved for members and donors.

Contact **Larry Wheeler** at **Ext. 230** and become a Life Member OR shift your payments to a direct deduction.

Bank Draft Options

Sign up for the Bank Draft option for your membership or other pledge payments. It's painless to do and **The Mountain** will deduct your monthly or quarterly payment from your designated account. Contact **Larry Wheeler** at **Ext. 230** for more information.

Youth Camp Staff Members – 1980-1999

Listed below are all of the people we know of who have been a part of the youth camp staffing in our first 20 years. The people below include counselors, junior counselors or CIT's, adventure leaders, arts and crafts leaders, and camp directors.

We're listing them here to make sure the list is correct before we engrave names on the special youth camp leadership plaque in the entrance hallway to the Tree House. This plaque is intended to honor all of these special people who have given their time, talent and energy to our campers over

the years.

If you're knowledgeable about these folks, please review the list and let us know if there are omissions, misspellings, etc. With omissions, it will be helpful if you can tell us approximately when they first served on the youth camp staff. We hope to have the plaque completed by the start of camp this year, so please contact **Larry Wheeler** soon with your inputs – (828) 526-5838, **Ext. 230**; mountain@dnet.net (and type his name in the subject line). Many thanks.

Brian Abbott
Pepi Acebo
Paula Ackerman
David Ahlburn
Heather Ahlburn
Nathan Algenio
Marisa Allen
Paul Allen
Jill Allison
John Amey
Rachel Arends
Richard Arends
Jessa Armstrong
Joan Armstrong
Lynn Bailey
Abby Bass
Art Bass
Jeff Bauer
Rebecca Baum
Mark Beasley
Amelia Becker
Nina Benedetto
Peter Benedict
Shane Benedict
Elizabeth Berney
Danda Bielinski
Lucy Bivins
Margaret Bivins
Lauren Blanford
Tawnya Blanford

Bronwen Blass
Nora Blomgren
Jenni Bostock
Vance Bostock
KC Boyce
Dick Bozung(Froggie)
Julian Brash
Rachel Brash
Ben Brau
Breazi Brazeale
Adam Breidenbach
Linda Brenner
Erin Brimmer
Pam Brooks
Chris Buck
Suzanne Buck
Carolyn Burleigh
Keri Buxton
Scott Buxton
Elizabeth Campanelli
Evelyn Carter
Paige Carter
Julian Chansen
Neka Chapman
Peter Christiansen
John Chubb
Gini Cissell
Becky Clark
Mark Clark
Katie Clayton

Michele Clements
Rene Cline
Ellen Coleman
Heather Collins
Faith Comstock
Lizzie Cook
Nancy Cooke
Danny Cowgill
Kim Cowgill
Jill Cox
Shaun Cox
Wade Cox
Rachel Croskery
Dolly Curran
Kirsten Davis
Amy Decker
Gillian Denham
Megan Denham
Shelley Denham
Karen Dhillon
Celeste Dickson
Stephen Dorsey
Tonia Durand
Jason Eckhart
Leslie Eckhart
Amy Ellenbogen
Heather Elliott
Melissa Elliott
Robin Elliott
Dawn Emory

Nicole Fauchtner
Ethan Fesperman
Gabe Flanders
Wendy Flerx
Colene Flynn
Laurel Freigley
Pamela Frey
Ashley Frost
Michelle Frost
Benjy Fry
Jodi Fry
Sally Gaines
Erick Gallun
Andrea Garrett
Mary Geitka
Helen Geltman
David George
Ben Gerhardstein
Chris Gilbert
Griff Gilbert
Nora Gluch
Ellen Godreau
Jessie Godreau
Peter Godrey
Allie Gooding
Joanna Gordon
Cory Graves
Erin Graves
Laura Graves
Matt Graves

Continues on Page 10



YES! I want to make a donation to support The Mountain's Vision!

Apply my contribution to:

☐ Life Member ☐ Cabbage Patch Development ☐ Scholarship Fund ☐ General Fund
☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$750 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$5,000 ☐ \$_____

Pay By: ☐ Check ☐ VISA/Master Card Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature on Card: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____

The Mountain Retreat & Learning Centers, Inc., P. O. Box 1299, Highlands, NC 28741-1299

Continued from page 9

Erik Green	Kaaren Kleiber	Debbie Nowak	Liz Stanton
Nils Green	Hans Klemmer	Tom Nowak	Lara Steele
Ruth Green	Tom Kluth	Ryan O'Dell	Myra Steele
Derek Greenwood	Nathaniel Kluthe	Maggie Ohoff	Mike Stein
Kristyn Greenwood	Erick Knepper	Lindsay Oldenski	Mike Steinbrenner
Adam Griffith	Lee Knight	Pamela Otte	Tracy Steinbrenner
Joel Grist	Keith Kortemeier	Mary Owens	Sandy Stoneham
Rebecca Grist	Ken Kortemeier	Pat Owens	Michael Streppa
Lisa Grover	Erick Krepper	Matt Paine	Mary Sutherland
Laura Groves	Nora Kuliesh	Traacie Papantones	Daniel Tashian
Trip Halbkat	Terri Lamme	Nick Parker	Karen Tattersall
Judy Halebsky	Gwen Larrick	Tim Parker	Jefferson Taylor
Cathy Hamlin	Sylvia Larson	Sean Peck	Mark Taylor
Mike Hamlin	Adam Lasik	Janine Penfield	Natalia Taylor
Heather Hansen	Bill Lawrence	Elizabeth Perill	David Tessier
Kelly Hargis	Michelle Lee	Rowdy Perry	Leah Thompsen
Brie Harrington	Erick Lingswiler	Becky Peterson	Sarag Thomsen
Andy Harris	Kathy Love	Matt Peterson	Mary Leta Tolleson
Jake Haun, III	Howard Lovely	Joi Phelps	Pete Tolleson
Glen Hawkins	Jack Lovless	Pam Phelps	Robin Tolleson
Becky Hazelton	Chris Luallen	Patrick Pohl	John Tomshany
Rafael Headland	Rachel MacCleery	Steve Pond	Bianca Tones
Lorna Heath	Jan Machler	Jesse Poole-Van Swol	Betsy Towns
Nancy Heath	Karyn Machler	Erick Primack	Hope Tucker
Jennifer Hefner	Kurt Machler	Brian Psiropoulos	Libba Turnbull
Landon Hendee	Meredith Machler	Chris Purcell	Barbara Ann Turner
Craig Hendershot	Ted Machler	Pippa Purcell	Jonathan Turner
David Herndon	Duncan Macomber	Neal Rainey	Terry Turner
Amy Hetrick	John Maddox	Ruth Ravits	Scot Umberger
Jonathan Highfield	Andrea Mancini	James Ray	Nick Uphoff
Debbie Highsmith	Dave Manifest	Elise Reed	Cale Ureda
Hagen Hill	Jamie Martin	Margaret Reed	Kent Ureda
Tori Hilton	Tom Martin	Laura Reese	Erik Verhaeghe
Elvin & Nancy Hilyer	Mark McCandless	Deborah Reichard	Corey Wahl
Chris Hobart	Lesley McClintock	Rachel Reisner	Kate Walker
Alicia & Walter Hodges	Andrew McClure	Kristen Remanesh	Martin Wallace
Nathaniel Hodges	Daniel McCormick	Kenneth Richard	Sarah Walls
Lee Hoffman	Kevin McCulloch	Michael Richard	Gregory Walters
Jeff Holland	Sean McDaniel	Steph Rieke	Cynthia Ward
Pepi Holly	Jennifer McDearman	Kennetta Rogers	Pam Wasilewski
Emily Home	Rebecca McGreevy	Krista Romanish	Lisa Waters
Carolyn Hooper	Elizabeth McMaster	Carla Rood	Bryn Watkins
Brian Horvitz	Caitlin McRae	Bobbie Root	Benjie Watterson
Kit Howell	Alan Medvick	Stacy Rumph	Johnathon Watterson
Meagan Howell	Mike Mercer	Laura Rundell	Corey Wattl
Kelly Huggett	Walt Mertz	Adam Schwartz	Catlin Weeks
Bekah Hunter	Anne Michaelson	Ben Schwartz	Amy Werner
Jenefer Hutchinson	Susan Milde	Leah Schweitzer	Paul West, Jr.
Janell Huyck	Claire Miller	Lita Semrau	Lori Westpal
Maggie Imhoff	Melissa Miller	Richard Sharpe	Brian Wheeler
Paul Irwin	Doug Milner	Todd Sharpley	Mo Wheeler
Brian Irwin	Tanya Moering	Nancy Shaw	Suzanne Whitehead
Lisa Jackson	Matt Montgomery	Hillary Sherrill	Molly Wilcox
Dot Jervis	Bill Moore	Jeanne Shirly	Andrew Wild
Kathy Jewel	Ramona Moore	Sephan Silvey	Tom Wildman
Daniel Kappus	Peter Morgan	Shannon Silvey	Pam Wilkie
Bob Karnan	Ellen Morrow	Susanne Silvey	Benjamin Williams
Jessie Karnatz	Carie Morse	Margaret Simino	Beth Williams
Eric Keller	Lillian Morton	Becka Smillie	Elizabeth Williams
Molly Keller	Lilly Morton	Claire Smith	Robert Williams
Carolyn Kilburn	Dennis Moskowitz	Dave Smith	Brian Wolcott
Donna Kimble	Mike Munn	Jennifer Soloway	Christina Wood
Charles Kirgbaum	Bryan Myers	Tina Sorden	James Yoos
Holie Kitson	Martin Nash	Krisha Sorrell	Karen Zaye
	Nina Nazimowitz	Joe Speidel	Nicholas Zimet
	Chad Nielson	Lisa Speidel	Zachary Zimet

Volunteer Highlights

Spring has arrived at **The Mountain**, and with it came **Brownie** and **Paul French** for their third extended volunteer stay with us. But, it isn't spring that brings them back.

Paul tells us that "when you work here and volunteer, it is the sincerity and dedication of the people" that is so important.

The Frenchs, from New Bern, North Carolina, became involved with **The Mountain** during and after an Elderhostel visit in 1998. They enjoyed it so much that they decided to stay the weekend. Following a Candles of Community service, Paul spoke for both of them as he told us of their profoundly moving experience being at **The Mountain**. And as they left, they assured us that "we will be coming back."

In April of 1999, Paul and Brownie signed on for an extended visit of volunteering. Brownie has a background in office management, and Paul has a career supervising skyscraper construction but with a yen to tackle smaller scale tasks. This matched almost perfectly with our requirements, and quickly they were considered regulars on the staff.

After their planned 3-week stay was over, they had already decided that, after a quick trip home, they would return for 4 more weeks because, as Paul explained, "We want to help you preserve what you have here." Brownie added, "We believe that what you are doing for youth, as well as adults and the young adults on your staff, speaks to the fulfillment of your mission."

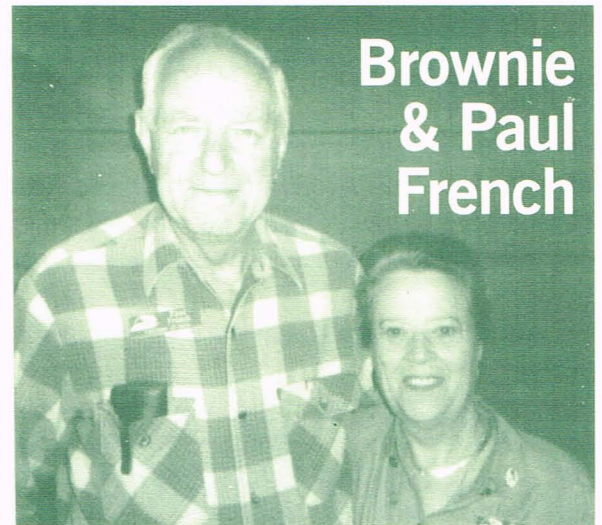
At the end of their second visit, coinciding with our 1999 Annual Meeting, it was our

honor to recognize them as Volunteers of Note, meaning that they made a substantial contribution to **The Mountain** through their volunteer work.

So, we all were very excited to welcome Brownie and Paul back this year, and they have already started working as if they had never left. For the Frenchs, volunteering at **The Mountain** is their way of supporting and being a part of the fulfillment of our Mission. "When we leave, we feel like we have really accomplished something. We feel great."

The staff feels that way, too. What a lift Brownie and Paul give to us in return!

— See how **YOU** can become a volunteer on Page 4. —



**Brownie
& Paul
French**

Volunteers and Staff Renovate Cabin 8

The Cabin 8 renovation, made possible by the generosity of **Bill** and **Lucia Pulgram**, neared completion in late March. The work was coordinated by **Ian Denham** and his team with the support of many volunteers. What a great response we had — 16 volunteers, working for one day up to 2-3 weeks, giving us over 425 person-hours to complete this project. They are: **Bill Baum, Michael DeVers, Paul French, Bob Hornberger, Roger Johnson, Carl Kappus, Stephen Kenton, Jim Middleton, Don Osgood, Wendy Price, Patty Provost, Jack Reynolds, David Russell, Fred Vermillion, Bob Whitney** and **Nancy Wylie**. A great big thanks to all of you.

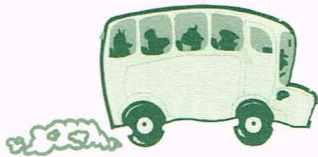
In addition, we had volunteers giving us a big boost in other areas this March. They were **Sandra Clipp, Brownie French, Sandy Gaither, Pat Gnagey, Lee Knight, Dixie McGinty, Krista Minnersmann, Steve Phillips, John Rolke, Anne Staley** and **Rose West**. Michael and Bob also took care of many projects besides Cabin 8.

All 27 would tell you to "Come join the fun." And, **The**

Mountain would benefit greatly from your work. Call **Robert E. Smith, Ext. 227**. We are ready for you to join us as a MVP.



Jack Reynolds and Patty Provost helping with the renovation of Cabin 8.



The BUS

Having served faithfully for many years as transportation, as the storage bin for maintenance, and as the crash pad for counselors one summer, **The Mountain Bus** has been taken off the summit. As part of our land use plan, which includes making areas more attractive and useful, the bus had to go to make way for a new storage shed, which incorporates the "trailer."

The bus was one of many acquisitions, which demonstrated the



1984 Staff

flair for resourcefulness that has become a hall-

mark of **Mountain** staff. Many of you will recall the trips, too — what an experience to take to the mountain roads and ramble to some wonderful site. More than one person has told us of the fun of being raised up over the other traffic, somehow staying in the lane, and then suspended over a cliff next to the road. As **Robert E. Smith** said, "Not everyone looked as I recall, but we did have great drivers."

In the photo at left, the "new" bus is welcomed circa 1984. Not

everyone can be identified — if you know that you or someone else was there, do let us know. In the top right photo, staff and volunteers pay tribute before the "old" bus is gently guided down and off **The Mountain**.

And thus, another chapter is closed, but not forgotten, at **The Mountain**.



2000 Staff

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