From the President: Young & Restless

It is hard to believe we are entering Week 6 of the season. It’s a good time to give a shout-out to our summer youth staff. They have amazing energy and dedication. It is challenging, exhausting, and fun – most of the time – to work with kids all day long. I can say that with authority because working with children is what I do for a living.

For many years I was a proud member of the MSSA youth staff, serving as crafts director, kindergarten director, and youth director in various years. In many ways it shaped my desire to continue to be a part of this special place. I have so many memories of fun and friendship. I lived in the “old” Nashville Home. My roommate Audrey and I shared a large room that opened onto the front porch. One night we were awakened by a thumping noise. When we turned on the light we saw a tee shirt making its way across the floor. Our screams brought the guys from upstairs, and the critter, a confused bat, was escorted elsewhere. No one could convince us that the bat had not been deliberately planted and thus began a ritual of jokes and pranks – some involving our ever-present bats, and some a bit more creative!

One truly great prank was executed long after I was a staff member. (I am certainly not going to tell any that incriminate me!) A certain staff member, we’ll call him “Mike,” was known for coming in late and none too quietly. While he was out one night, his fellow staffers took his entire room – bed, desk, books, everything down to the alarm clock and illuminated lamp on the bedside table – and set it all up precisely…in the gazebo on the Mall!

I am sure Mike was surprised. But the best surprise of all was when round robin tennis began at 9am and the players arrived to find Mike snoring in his new room in the gazebo!

Being a member of the youth staff is a rewarding and character-building experience. It helps tie our older youth and young adults to the Assembly. It creates memories and friendships that last a lifetime. It also creates relationships spanning the generations – something we all know is special and unique about MSSA. Thank you 2014 Youth Staff – We love you! And keep the furniture in the Nashville Home.

-- Kent

Great Platform Events This Week!

Two events at the Assembly this week feature Inge Meyring Smith, an inspiring woman who narrowly escaped the Holocaust as a child. She found herself in New York as a teen, living in poverty and able to read only German. In 1952, after having moved to Franklin, Tenn., with her husband Paul, she started a kindergarten in the basement of her church, where her love of teaching flourished. She went on to complete a master’s degree in education from Vanderbilt’s prestigious Peabody College. Through the Head Start program, Inge created a private elementary school named Harpeth Academy, now known as Battleground Academy Lower School in Franklin. The school reflects Inge’s sincere belief that schools should “Teach the child, not the subject.” Her story is the focus of the book One of the Miracles: The Inge Meyring Smith Story and a movie, Born for America: The Life of Inge Meyring Smith. The movie screened on Monday evening at 8:15pm in Warren Chapel; Inge will speak Tuesday at 11am in the Chapel.

Two additional lectures this week focus on Tennessee history. Jane Hardy will speak about “Renovating Historic, Sustainable, Award-Winning Little House Nashville” at 11am Thursday. The house is one of the first historic homes in the nation to receive Platinum Certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). That evening, Paul Clements will share the story of “The Nickajack Expedition and the Present Site of Monteagle” at 8:15pm. Clements has written two books about the history of Middle Tennessee, A Past Remembered and Chronicles of the Cumberland Settlements.

Finally, the Sewanee Summer Music Festival concludes its Assembly chamber music series Tuesday evening, the final in its performances in Warren Chapel. They will perform at 8:15pm in Warren Chapel.

(Continued on page 2)
Music Notes

Music is very definitely part of worship; chosen well, it supports and rein-
forces the pastors’ Sunday sermons and themes for Twilight Prayers. The
different groups of singers have added to our worship experiences. A huge
shout-out to Whit Uden, Abby and her dad, Clark Hudgins, the Assembly
Chorus, Ringers & Singers, and the Men’s Group! They have added im-
measurably to our worship experiences!

Still to come:
• Ringers & Singers today during the Offertory
• Ms. Pam’s Krystal Bell Singers today during the Prelude
• Assembly Chorus - Sunday, July 20
• Men’s Group – Sunday, July 27
• Bill Phillips – Sunday, August 3

You may have noticed that Ringers and Singers are part of worship on
Wednesday nights at Twilight Prayers. Sometimes they sing at the begin-
ning of the service and sometimes they sing at the end. Ms. Pam’s Krystal
Bell Singers is adding to Thursday nights at Twilight Prayers.

Invitation to ALL: We would love to have you, your teenagers, and your
children (ages 6 – 11) join one or more of our groups. The only require-
ment is a LOVE for SINGING! (The Men’s Group requires the ability to
sight-read music.)

I enjoy serving as coordinator of our worship music and directing three of
the choirs. If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact me.

-- Judith Humphreys

Update From Winfield

The Fletcher Room is available for a two-night minimum beginning Wednes-
day, July 16th through Saturday, July 19th. Nightly rate $75 and one time
cleaning fee of $30 (check or cash). No smoking, no pets, guests must be 25
years or older. The room is air conditioned with twin beds and a small refrig-
erator. Perfect for guests wanting to attend the Cottage Tour. If interested con-
tact Cindy Huston at Winfield (931) 924-2255.

We are still accepting donations for the Adult Library. Current hardback books
always appreciated! Thank you to Doug Ferris and Jean Jervis for recent do-
nations.

For Housing - Ask Ruth and Debra!
931-924-9000

• Should you have concerns that your cot-
tage has not rented to your satisfaction dur-
ing the season or off-season, contact Ruth or
Debra to discuss your options.
• If you are willing to consider offering your
cottage for 3-day rentals, call Ruth and
Debra.
• If you are willing to negotiate or prorate
rentals, call Ruth and Debra.
• If you have questions about your rentals,
call Debra.

LOST: Blue and white tablecloth that was
left on one of the picnic tables on July 4th.
It has a dark blue background with a patch-
work design of stripes, flowers and various
patterns all over it in white. It was left on
table 149A, near the chapel. It has senti-
mental value as it was a recent birthday pre-
sent from me to my mother, Betsy Head-
den, and this was the first time she had used
it. If you have any information, please con-
tact Carrie Layson at (615) 479-6123 or
turn into the office and they will contact me.

For Housing - Ask Ruth and Debra!
Bits and Pieces

Mountain Voices articles: Be sure to submit your articles for Mountain Voices to Liz Norell at platform@mssa1882.org by Wednesday of each week to ensure they make the next edition. Thank you!

- Don't forget to come to the Thursday Morning Mountain Market from 7-10 am in front of the Harton Dining Hall. Come early to be sure to get the freshest flowers and local goodies.
- Call Scott First! Only routine maintenance, house cleaning, and lawn care are permissible during the season. If you need to make an emergency repair to your cottage during the season, please contact the General Manager before calling a contractor.
- Don't Get Ticketed! To avoid getting a ticket, remember to have your auto permit on the dash of your car at all times while you are on Assembly Grounds. Carry your gate tickets with you, even if you're on a golf cart.
- Thanks to all who contributed table blessings for the dining hall! The Chapel committee hopes you will enjoy using these prayers with your family and friends as you gather to share meals this summer. For now we have enough to go around, but if others come to mind that you would like to submit, please feel free to send them to Cullen Hornaday, cullen704@gmail.com or drop them by Cottage 91 (Summertime) for use later in the Season.
- Dining Hall Accounts: For cash-free dining, be sure to set up a Dining Hall account in advance through the Main Office.

We Need Your Help!
The Bazaar Bake Sale needs your cookies, cakes, pies, pickles, breakfast breads, etc. for the Bake Sale booth at the MSSA Woman’s Association Bazaar. Drop off goods by 8:30 am Friday. If you have questions, call Linda Parrish or Lucinda Trabue, 615-351-9967.

Make a Wavy Scarf in One Day!
Join Sally Swor as she leads us in a fun project that is suitable for beginners to advanced knitters. We’ll use multi-colored lacy yarn to knit a fashionable scarf. 10 am-Noon & 1:30-4:30 pm at the Art Pavilion. Advance sign-up required. $25 includes a fully stocked knit bag

Photo of the Week

William Walters (son of Katherine Walters) playing on the playground for the first time!

Photo of the Week: Email photos of your fun at the Assembly to Liz Norell at platform@mssa1883.org. The best picture of each week will be featured in a following issue of Mountain Voices.
Leaseholds Available

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2014 Cottage Tour & Bazaar

We are pleased to announce homes that will be on the 2014 Cottage Tour & Bazaar. They are:
1) “West Side Story,” Anne Byrn Roberts
2) “Hallelujah,” Frannie & Larry Smith
3) “Point of View,” Brant & Susie Lipscomb
5) “Leap of Faith,” Margaret & Steve Rixham
6) “MoJo,” Ellen Moore
7) “Fairy Houses,” nestled on Hummingbird Hill, created by children of all ages

We are truly thrilled with this line-up and are busy making plans for this Monteagle tradition. Thank you to all of the home owners who have agreed to open their homes. Each is busy getting things ready for this special day. We feel that this year’s tour has a great representation of wonderful Monteagle architecture, and guests will really get a sense of both traditional, newer-period homes, and beautiful renovations.

Also in the works is the “Bazaar on the Mall!” Amanda Moody has been busy getting vendors for the event. Please contact her if you know of a person who would be a good fit for the bazaar; her email is bmoody2002@comcast.net. There are still spots left, and we are looking for creative people.

Back this year is the amazing Ralph Null. Ralph is a nationally known florist whose arrangements and floral schemes have been present at countless parties and big events. We are so lucky to have him back. He will give a floral demonstration, and we will be auctioning off his beautiful creations. The demonstration is open to all holding a gate ticket or a Cottage Tour ticket.

Lunch options are plentiful! As always, we will have our world-famous boxed lunches for sale at the Women’s Club (on Winfield Porch). They are always full of tempting treats. Tables will be set up on the Winfield lawn for guests to eat their lunch. The Dining Hall will also have one of Emily Frith’s special blue-plate Southern lunches. The Edgeworth Inn will also be having a boarding house meal on the day of the tour. Please note that we will have a pre-sale for box lunches. You can contact the office to reserve your lunch. We will have extra lunches on sale on the day of the event, but those usually sell out quickly.

As always, we will have a friendly group of Monteagle Ambassadors driving golf carts to get you where you need to go!

**Friday, July 18**
- **Bazaar**: 9am - 4pm
- **Cottage Tour**: 11am - 4pm
- **Ralph Null**: 1pm - 2pm

**Tickets**
- Pre-Sale Price (before July 18): $15
- Day of event: $20
- Box lunches: $15
- Edgeworth Boarding House Lunch (reservations required): $14.95 per person. Please contact Inn directly for reservations: (931) 924-4000.

Pre-purchase your Cottage Tour and Box Lunch tickets by calling the office at 924-2286. You can use your credit card to pay for the transaction. Tickets will be available for you at the check-in point.

Let Every Voice Be Heard!

ARE YOU ON AN MSSA COMMITTEE? Would you like to be? At the end of the season, committees will be re-organizing. Now is an excellent time to look over the various committees. They can be found in the back of your program. Additionally, committee descriptions and contact information for the chairs can be found on our website.

Committees are an extremely important part of our organization! And contrary to urban legend, you do not have to be a member to serve on a committee! Some committees are small by design, and some need more manpower. If you are interested, contact the current chair or Kent Ballow, who will pass the information along to the incoming chair.

Buffet Menu
Sunday, July 13

Linguini with shrimp and sausage and cajun spices
Coca cola glazed ham
Creole succotash
Sautéed green beans
Assorted salads
Mississippi mud cake and ice cream

**FARM TO TABLE DINNER**
**FRIDAY, JULY 25**
With a special live jazz performance by Sewanee musicians. This is going to be a very special night!
Wesley Arning, Youth Minister. Wesley Arning will be a sen-
ior psychology major at Gordon College in Wenham, MA
this upcoming fall. He spent the fall semester of 2013 at a
study abroad program in Jerusalem where he took courses on
Rabbinic Literature, Biblical Geography, and Biblical Ar-
chaeology. He fell in love not only with the Holy Land, but
also with the people and culture that makes it such a special
place. He has served as a leader of Fellowship of Christian
Athletes and Athletes in Action. A native of Murfreesboro,
TN and a lifelong member of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
Murfreesboro, he served as vestry youth representative, di-
ocesan committee member to organize an acolyte festival,
and lay rector of the diocesan Happening weekend retreat
for youth. He led a Bible study in Rutherford County jail and
worked with homeless men and women in Boston and at
Trinity Church in Nashville. He feels a calling to work with
poor and underprivileged families and is beginning the dis-
cernment process to the priesthood.

Paul Clements, Lecturer. Paul Clements was born in Nash-
ville in 1947, attended Woodmont Elementary School, Battle
Ground Academy, Vanderbilt, and Peabody College, and
completed a degree in Human Behavior. He began coaching
children’s athletics in 1966, and continued coaching for over
40 years. Paul became seriously involved in researching Mid-
dle Tennessee history in 1976, and his first book, A Past
Remembered, was published in 1987. His most recent book,
Chronicles of the Cumberland Settlements, is a compilation of
counters covering the frontier history of Middle Tennessee
and was released in 2012. He and his wife Ruth and live in
Williamson County and have four children.

Virginia Donelson Curry, Workshop Instructor. Virginia
Donelson Curry, native Memphian and life-long Assembly
supporter, is the Lausanne Collegiate School’s Lower School
Art Educator who transmits the passion of creativity and en-
thusiasm for beauty to her students. After graduating from
St. Mary’s Episcopal School, she attended Hollins College in
Roanoke, VA. She is an active member in several national
and state professional art associations, and in 2008 she
spoke at the National Art Educators Association convention
in New Orleans. In 2013, she spoke at the Tennessee Art
Educators Association Convention on Clay in the Elementary
classroom. After working in the printing industry for 15
years, she changed careers to her happiest years, now as a
teacher of children and adults.

The Reverend Amanda Diamond, Guest Minister. Rev.
Amanda Diamond is an ordained clergy in the United Meth-
odist Church. She has led numerous spiritual retreats through-
out the country and has preached to large denomina-
tional gatherings over her 16 years of ministry. Amanda has
pastored in a variety of church settings and is currently serv-
ing as lead pastor at Morton Memorial UMC. She received
her Masters of Divinity degree from the Methodist Theologi-
cal School of Ohio. She along with her husband Luke and
daughter Emma reside in Montage.

Roy Elam, Lecturer. Roy O. Elam, Ill, M.D., a Sewanee
alumnus, is associate professor of Internal Medicine at Van-
derbilt University School of Medicine, where he teaches heal-
ing arts and inter-professional learning and serves as omb-
udsman. In his role as medical director for the Vanderbilt
Center for Integrative Health, Elam is involved in educational
and clinical activities. His work in mindfulness and integrative
health dates back two decades when he trained under John
Kabat-Zinn, Ph.D., developer of Mindfulness Based Stress
Reduction (MBSR). Elam has been practicing Centering
Prayer since 1993. He also has studied mind-body medicine
with holistic and integrative health pioneers Rachel Remen,
M.D., and James Gordon, M.D. Also passionate about his
work with individuals and families at the end of life, Elam is a
past chair of the Alive Hospice Board and a founder of the
Vanderbilt Palliative Care Program. Dr. Elam represents the
Vanderbilt Center for Integrative Health as 1 of 55 active
members in the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for
Integrative Medicine. In the School of Medicine, he has led
the training of classes 2016 and 2017 in health coaching.

Norris Nelson Gagnet, Youth Workshop Instructor. Norris
Gagnet has loved photography since high school, wanting to
photograph the unique architecture of her New Orleans
surroundings. After earning undergraduate (Millsaps College)
and masters (UNO) degrees in early childhood education and
coaching for 10 years, becoming a mother made Norris
want to upgrade her camera equipment to better capture
the moment. With the encouragement of friends and family,
Norris eventually started taking child and family portraits in
natural light, and her new photographic business was born.
She has also expanded her experience in recent years by
taking several classes at the Academy of Fine Arts in New
Orleans. Norris feels passionately that everyone should have
good pictures and quality prints of the people, places and
events they treasure, and she enjoys helping others improve
their photographic skills. Ms. Gagnet taught very successful
photography workshops during the Assembly’s 2010 &
2012 summer seasons, and her photographs graced both the
covers and pages of the 2010-2012 program books.

Jane Hardy, Lecturer. In 1992, when Jane Hardy and her
husband Rod Koczitzky bought a 1920 Bungalow near
West End Avenue in Nashville, the detached garage/
 servants’ quarters had two large holes in the roof and was
uninhabitable. After stabilizing the 750 sq. ft. clapboard
structure, Jane began a 15-year process of gaining insight
from historic residences, including those on MSSA cottage
tours, and collecting antique doors, cabinets, and hard-
ware. Jane tried to envision every possible use of the struc-
ture for the next 50 years, and designed accordingly. All
interior walls were removed, resulting in one large room that
can be converted for several uses: small group discussions,
cooking, eating, watching TV, sleeping (queen-size Murphy
bed and two twin beds), and entertaining. Goals included
energy efficiency, Universal Design, 100% wood walls and
ceilings, and maintaining the historic exterior. “Little House
Nashville” is one of the first historic homes in the nation to
receive Platinum Certification for Leadership in Energy and
Environmental Design (LEED), awarded by the U.S. Green
Building Council in 2011. It was selected “Best Green House,”
by Greensource, The Magazine of Sustainable De-
sign, in February 2011. The Metropolitan Historical Com-
mision of Nashville-Davidson County, gave it an
“Architectural Award,” in 2012, and the U.S. Green Build-
ning Council (USGBC), Middle Tennessee Chapter, gave it the
“Green Star Award, Best of the Best: Residential” in

Ralph Null, Floral Lecturer/Demonstrator. Ralph Null is an
internationally recognized leader in floral arts and retail flor-
culture. During his floral career he has presented more than
850 lecture demonstrations throughout the world. His floral
creations have graced White House state dinners, Presiden-
tial inaugerals, the windows of Saks Fifth Avenue and
Macys’, and Neiman Marcus catalogues; and they have also
appeared in many national and international publications.
He has exhibited in London, Oslo, Cape Town, Sydney and
Tokyo, as well as throughout the United States, including the
Smithsonian Institution. Null has served as president of
the American Institute of Floral Designers (AIFD) and as
CFO of the AIFD Foundation. He authored A Florist’s Guide
to Successful Weddings, A Christmas Collection, Spring
Arrangements from the Southern Garden, Summer Ar-
rangements from the Southern Garden, and Fall and Winter

(Continued on page 6)
**Week 6 Platform Guests**

*(Continued from page 5)*

**Arrangements from the Southern Garden.** Upon retirement from Mississippi State University in 1992 after 25 years of teaching, Null was made Professor Emeritus. More than 40 years ago, he began using landscape materials as opposed to traditional commercial floral materials, and this creative approach to naturalism is still the foundation of his designs.

**Inge Meyring Smith,** Lecturer. Inge was born in Germany and narrowly escaped the Holocaust. In New York as a teen living in poverty and able to read only German, Inge struggled to complete her education. While working as a secretary on Wall Street, she met and married Paul M. Smith. They later moved to Franklin, TN where they had three children. In 1952, Inge started a kindergarten in the basement of her church and her love of teaching children flourished. Wishing to continue her education, Inge enrolled at Vanderbilt and Mississippi in John F. Kennedy’s Head Start program where her life was threatened several times for bringing food and the love of learning to impoverished Mississippi black families. In the midst of Head Start in 1969, Inge was given the opportunity to create a private elementary school, Harpeth Academy (currently Battleground Academy Lower School in Franklin), which would eventually serve as a role model for several independent schools throughout the U.S. and Europe. With the motto, “Teach the child, not the subject,” Inge has inspired untold thousands of children with a love of learning that they otherwise might not have experienced. As she approaches her late-80s, Inge hasn’t slowed. She continues to operate the preschool that she started over 60 years ago with the philosophy that each child is a gift from God, the value of which is not determined by race or social privilege, but by opportunity, which she feels is a basic right for all children throughout the globe. She is the focus of the book, *One of the Miracles: The Inge Meyring Smith Story,* and the DVD, *Born for America: The Life of Inge Meyring Smith.*

**Sallie Swor,** Workshop Instructor. Nashville native Sallie Stamps Swor enjoys cooking, knitting, craft projects, gardening, reading and writing her food blog. She participates in the Query Club, Town and Country Garden Club, and Centennial Club Knitters. She has served as President for the Educators Book Club and as Historian for the Colonial Dames. Recent volunteer jobs have included the Friends of the Educators Book Club and as Historian for the Colonial Dames. She lives in Nashville with her husband and two basset hounds near Radnor Lake. Their son is studying to become a musician and music producer. Sallie is a graduate of Hillsboro High School and Rhodes College and holds a Masters Degree in Counseling and Psychology from University of Memphis. Follow Sallie on her blog at http://thedeerone.com.

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**Woman’s Association Updates**

Please attend our final organizational meeting for The 50th Anniversary Cottage Tour and Bazaar! We will meet at 11am at Winfield House on Wednesday to review all of our plans, secure volunteers, and to hear final instructions from Chairman Susan Ackler and Bazaar Co-Chairmen Amanda Moody and Ellie Billington. There is so much excitement rolled up around this huge event and we want you to be a part of it! To be included, all you have to do is come to our meeting and pick a spot to help that sounds fun to you for the Friday Tour and Bazaar. You might help with the Bake Sale, help in one of the Tour cottages, pass out box lunches at Winfield, set up card tables, bring water to our Bazaar vendors, or sell tickets at the North Gate. We would love to have you join us. Please see Susan’s article in this issue of Mountain Voices for more details on the Tour and Bazaar.

Also this week at Winfield House is a *Book Swap* on Monday at 2:30pm. Bring a book to swap! Wednesday at 2:30pm is our *Adult Card Party.* Come ready to play your favorite card game or Mah Jong.

Everyone is invited to join us this week and … bring all of your friends for a wonderful day on the 18th at The Assembly for our 50th Anniversary Cottage Tour and Bazaar. It is truly amazing!

--Franie Smith, Woman’s Association President

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**What a Night!**

Applause and hugs go to Anne Byrn Floyd and Meghan Hudgins for organizing and executing our fantastic fundraiser. Not only did they raise significant dollars for the refurbishment of our auditorium, they also showcased what a spectacular setting it is for events and parties! Our guests were amazed at its beauty and incredible acoustics. Thanks are also due to Beckly Nelson for arranging the evening’s performance of “Words and Music: The Best of Nashville” and to Emily Frith for fabulous food. We look forward to future events in our auditorium!

-- Kent Ballow

We would like to thank everyone who attended the event on Saturday night. What an awesome set of talent we had! We would also like to give a special shout-out to Emily Frith for such amazing food, Clark Hudgins for his many hours of set-up and breakdown of all the technical gear, Village Liquors for their contribution, Bluebird Winery for the wine, and especially Village Tavern in Sewanee for the full donation of the beer truck.

-- Meghan Hudgins and Anne Byrn

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**Recycle Your Pass Sleeves**

We collect and reuse the plastic sleeves for gate passes each year. Please drop yours off at the office or at the gate house before you leave the Assembly!

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**We Want Your Platform Suggestions!**

Platform is always looking for your suggestions for speakers & ministers next season! Platform recommendation forms may be completed online or in the office, or you may email Platform Superintendent Beckly Nelson at beckly.nelson@msa1882.org.

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**The mission of Monteagle Sunday School Assembly is**

...the advancement of science, literary attainment, Sunday School interests, and the promotion of the broadest popular culture in the interest of Christianity without regard to sect or denomination...and to hold stated public meetings from year to year upon the grounds of the Assembly.