

MOUNTAIN VOICES



Volume 14, Issue 3

Monteagle Sunday School Assembly

March 2013

The mission of the 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 meeting from year to year upon the grounds of the Assembly.

From the President: Staff Spotlight

I hope you are enjoying getting to know our staff better through these spotlights in Mountain Voices. This month: meet Jamie Ransom, Homer Dudley and Jim Green!

Jamie Ransom

Jamie joined the Assembly crew four months ago on the recommendation of Kevin Dykes. Originally from Denison, Iowa, he was a mechanic and worked in construction. He had a successful stint as a truck driver

with a route from Nebraska to Florida. Fortuitously, he stopped at the former "Pops" Restaurant (that we all loved), and there he met his wife who was working there, and the rest is history. He lives in Tracy City, and he has a son (4) and a daughter (12) who live in Dyersburg, Tenn.



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2013 MSSA Calendar

- Apr 12-14 Trails & Trilliums
- May 6-13 Sewanee Graduation
- May 25 Board Meeting
- June 9 131st Assembly Opens
- June 15 Board Meeting
- June 29 Board Meeting

From the General Manager Trails & Trilliums Celebrates 10th Anniversary, April 12-14

I hope many of you are planning to join us for this year's Trails and Trilliums. Margaret Matens, the event chairman, asked me to share this with you as this year marks a special milestone for this really fun event.

Scott Parrish

Founded a decade ago as a small Sewanee event to promote the purchase of native plants and offer guided hikes on some spectacular wildflower walks, Trails & Trilliums is turning 10 this spring and celebrating in a big way. Sponsored by the Friends of South Cumberland State Park and held here at the Assembly, Trails & Trilliums now attracts hikers, wildflower enthusiasts,



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From the President

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Homer Dudley (“Taco”)

Homer has the nickname Taco because his mother craved tacos during her pregnancy. He has lived in the Monteagle, Altamont, and Jump Off areas his whole life and has worked for the Assembly crew since June 2013.



At one point he was job hunting and applied for an

Assembly gate job. When a member of the crew left, Larry Dykes looked at all of the applications and chose Taco for his impressive application and maintenance experience. He has worked for the University and has built houses for the Sidley Construction Company.

Jim Green

Jim is an MSSA long-timer, having come to work at the Assembly 28 years ago! He has been a good friend of many Assembly members since 1985. After four years in the Army, stationed at



Fort Campbell, KY, he was job hunting when he came in contact with Irwin Crais and Lex Orr. They asked him if he was interested in working at the Assembly and quickly put him to work. Before the Army he worked in logging and at Rock Tenn in Chattanooga.

He was born in Coalmont and has family living in Tracy City. He has lived in Monteagle over 10 years with his wife Roxanne. Together they have 5 children and his son Jayme lives in Monteagle too.

Pat Wildman

From the General Manager

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park supporters and families from four states.

A highlight of the 2013 event will be the keynote address by David Haskell, author of the acclaimed book, *The Forest Unseen*, on Saturday night during Wine & Wildflowers. Haskell, who will also lead guided walks on Saturday and Sunday, will be honored as the recipient of the Yeatman Environmental Education Award. The Trails & Trilliums Tribute Award will be presented to the new Tennessee Naturalist Program.

Other key events of the three-day festival include 15

varied hikes on some of the South Cumberland’s most beautiful trails, a great selection of native



plants, the expanded “Brush with Nature” preview party / art sale on Friday night, the Cumberland Wild Forum, Gardens Gone Wild at the Humphries’ cottage garden, workshops, music, food and vendors. A three-day nature journaling workshop will be held Wed.-Fri. mornings before the weekend events. A focus on families continues with “Ramble,” the State Parks’ raccoon mascot on stage along with native critters, kinder gardening, William’s Wildflowers program, hayrides and an

introduction to rock climbing. All are activities that will spark kids’ interest in wildlife, woods and wonder.

Proceeds from the weekend support South Cumberland State Park, the largest state wilderness park in Tennessee. A detailed schedule and a chance to pre-register coming soon to trailsandtrilliums.org.

Also, visit the Trails & Trilliums Facebook page.

Margaret Matens

Survey for Our Future

If you have not yet received a link or a hard copy to take the strategic planning survey, you soon will. All members are encouraged to fill out the member survey. If we don't hear from you, how will we know what YOU think? The survey results will be used to create our 3-5 year strategic plan, and we want input from every member. Additionally, you will be sent a link for a survey that you may forward on to people in your household who are not MSSA members. This might include spouses, siblings, children and grandchildren. Their input is equally important to the development of a plan that incorporates the thoughts of everyone who participates in Assembly life! Another survey will be sent to our renting guests. If you don't have email or don't receive a paper copy in the mail, be sure to log onto the MSSA website, where all three links will be posted.

The survey results will be analyzed and collated by our consultant, Ann Coulter. Mark your summer calendar for two opportunities you will have to view and respond to the results: June 14 and July 13. Specific times and locations will be in the program and in MV.

Last, a group made up of a broad MSSA constituency will be writing our plan this summer! Under the leadership of Ann Coulter, this group of about 20 individuals will analyze the survey data and



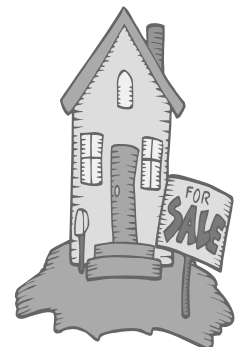
craft the plan. If you are interested in participating in this highly elite, super special group, contact Kent. The Long Range Planning Committee is very excited about our future plan, which will be unveiled this fall!

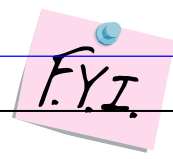
*Kent Ballow, Chair,
Long Range Planning
Committee*



Cottages Available for Transfer:

#67	Wayside	\$769,000
#92	The Moorings	\$385,000
#98	Idlehour	\$390,000
#129	Hallelujah	\$450,000
#136	Endevor	\$625,000
#146	Boutcher	\$719,000
#156	Robin Hill	\$295,000
#165	Once Upon A Time	\$785,000





Prayers

Frances Gettys “Frank” Watkins, of Sewanee, died on Feb. 26 at Emerald-Hodgson Hospital. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Sewanee Senior Center, 5 Ball Park Rd., Sewanee, TN 37375. Frank is the father of Anna Watkins, who serves as Platform Assistant.

Attention Gardeners: Come Dig in the Dirt!

On Saturday May 4, the landscaping committee and its dedicated volunteers will gather on the mall for our annual planting day. We need anyone willing to get a little dirty to join the landscape committee for this festive rite of spring. You do not have to be an experienced gardener to participate...we simply need your enthusiasm! The result will be a spruced up Assembly for the upcoming season and some wonderful camaraderie.



*Marty Buffington,
Landscaping Committee*



Now Hear This!

Thanks to a generous gift from Mary Palmer Thompson and Robin and Overton Thompson, the Assembly will be able to provide hearing assistance devices for programs and services held in Warren Chapel. We are grateful for this gift which will benefit so many.

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Remember Security Number

If you need our security guard at night, please call 931-607-8615. Please call for any disturbance or anything that seems odd or out of the ordinary.

MSSA Alcohol Policy

The possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances on public grounds, in public places, or at public functions on the Assembly grounds is prohibited and subjects the offender to disciplinary action by the board of trustees.

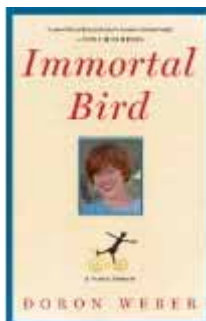
Mark your Calendars for Exciting Events from the Woman's Association this Season!

The Woman's Association is proud to announce that it has set its calendar of events for the 2013 Season, and there is nothing you want to miss!

First, we are ecstatic to announce that our most delightful and wonderful hostess, Cindy Huston will return to spoil us with her gracious hospitality and event leadership!

This year on the Winfield Porch there will be card parties, book clubs, porch parties, book swaps, luncheons and coffees, crafty Fridays, story time for children and, of course, our famous and fabulous Cottage Tour and Bazaar! Each month, we will feature a few of our activities in Mountain Voices and hope you will plan to join us for some of the fun. Our membership is open to everyone and we invite you to be a part of our group. It is by far the best way to make new friends and to keep up with old ones!

Think about getting your books now for this year's Book Club. There are 3 books to be reviewed.



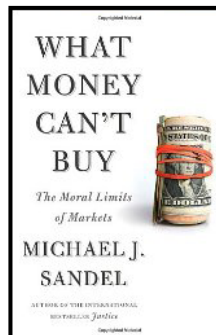
On Friday, July 5, we will discuss *Immortal Bird* by Doron Weber.

On Thursday, July 18, we will



discuss *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, and on Thursday, August 1, *What Money Can't*

Buy: *The Moral Limits of Markets* by Michael J. Sandel. We meet at 11 a.m. each time on Winfield Porch.



We will also sponsor two Book Swaps on the Winfield porch on Monday, July 1 and Monday, July 22 at 2:30 p.m. Bring some books you have read and enjoyed and trade for some new ones. We also encourage you to bring children's books and summer reading books to trade or

to donate to our children's library.

So, so much more to tell about our summer! If you would like to be on our Woman's Association email list where you can be reminded of important upcoming events and opportunities to get involved in some of our activities, please send me your email address. We are currently updating our list and would love to add you to our group!

Next month, more about PORCH PARTIES!

Frannie Smith
President of the
Woman's Association
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Trails & Trilliums

APRIL 12, 13 & 14
MONTEAGLE SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
— FRIENDS OF SOUTH CUMBERLAND —



**Be Part of
Trails &
Trilliums!**



From top left, clockwise:
vendors, workshops, wagon
rides, guided hikes to some
of the most beautiful places
on earth—and much more!



Foster Falls (above) and
Collins Gulf (right)