

MOUNTAIN VOICES



Volume 15, Issue 5

Monteagle Sunday School Assembly

May 2014

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 General Manager Ready or Not!

Finally spring has returned to the mountain bringing warm weather, abundant flowers, a very successful Trails and Trilliums festival, and a glorious Easter weekend. The Assembly has come alive with families, activities and laughter. With fewer than 40 days until the beginning of the 132nd season, the steady off-season preparation is becoming more frenetic.

Many members have stopped by in the last few weeks as they begin to open their cottages. More often than not, I hear **the comment, "I bet you are**

dreading the season." I always reply **"to the contrary, I can't wait!"**

Although activities during the off-season are becoming more frequent, the season is the very reason the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly was chartered in 1882. It is what we prepare for nearly year round. This year promises another great platform, an energized youth staff, a



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From the President Pre-Season Promises

The 132nd season is nearly upon us! For me, the day the season opens - or the day you arrive on the mountain - is the best day of the year! On that day, as you settle into your first evening on the porch and the tree frogs are singing, everything that makes summer special is possible.

It does not matter if your time on the mountain is to be a week, a month or a few scattered weekends. The first night holds

the promise that this year you **will...read that book you have been** carrying around, visit with your old friend, exercise every day, bake a blackberry cobbler, paint those porch rockers. On that first day, as those summer days stretch before you, you believe and hope that summer will never end and that everything you have been dreaming about through the cold winter will happen!

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2014 MSSA Calendar

May 24	Board Meeting
June 8	132 nd Assembly Opens
June 14	Board Meeting
June 28	Board Meeting

Mountain Voices
Liz Norell, editor

Deadline to submit items for the next issue is May 25th.
Send Articles to
platform@mssa1882.org

From the General Manager

(continued from page 1)

completed dining hall project, freshly blazed hiking trails, well maintained gardens and grounds, a friendly gate staff to greet you, and a professional staff to assist you.

The greatest promise of the upcoming season is the enduring tradition of multiple generations of families and friends returning to their summer home on the mountain to renew lifelong friendships, create new ones, and mourn those who will not return.

Ready or not, the 132nd season is upon us. I for one am ready!

*Regards,
Scott*



Bone up on Your Cannon Ball

The MSSA pool will open Memorial Day weekend (including Memorial Day) and will be open weekends until the beginning of the season. The hours are 1-5 p.m.

From the President

(continued from page 1)

I myself am eager for Day 1 and look forward to reconnecting with everyone. My to-do list is quite full, but of course I am already adding to it. I know you are making **you own plans, but don't** forget to: walk the east and west nature trails which are newly blazed with color-coded markings, attend a lecture or workshop that challenges your mind or abilities, listen to Ringers and Singers one Wednesday night, eat locally grown tomatoes and freshly made mozzarella in the dining hall, invite the newcomers in

your neighborhood to your porch, go to one of the excellent Sunday school classes, watch (or play!) tennis on the Cheek courts and enjoy the beautifully landscaped Sigourney Cheek gathering spot. And, oh yes, take a siesta every day during quiet hour so that you have the energy to attend all the outstanding programs and excursions!

Of course, doing it all is impossible, but trying new things, being open to interesting ideas, and making new friends is what the

experience on the mountain is all about. The paint on the porch rockers can wait. May your summer be everything - and more - you envision it to be! See you on the mountain.

*See you on the mountain,
Kent*

Woman's Association Book Club and More

It is time to buy your books for **the Woman's Association Book Club** this season. Please join us on the Winfield Porch for discussion of these three wonderful books. Check your program books for Book Club meeting times.

July 2- The Madonnas of Leningrad by Debra Dean

July 21- Life After Life by Jill McCorkle (Jill will actually be at the Assembly giving a lecture that day.)

July 31- Small Island by Andrea Levy

In addition to the book club, there are so many fun activities going on at Winfield this season! There will be Porch Parties and Arty Parties, receptions for some of our guest speakers and a Welcome Back Brunch, along with meetings to plan our fabulous Cottage Tour and Bazaar, Crafty Fridays and gardening opportunities, Library time and Book Clubs, free internet connection and just plain visiting. We welcome you all and invite you to join us anytime at Winfield. Bring your friends too.

*Frannie Smith,
WA President*

Prepared for Picnic?



Did you notice last summer that your July 4 picnic table is a little worse for wear? If you are ready for a new picnic platform, you can purchase one or more from the office for just \$100 each (rentals are also available for a wallet-friendly \$25 per table for the day). The tables are eight feet long and seat eight people comfortably. They are also made of hard plastic, so you can invest in picnic perches for years to come. If your saw horses and plywood are folding under the weight of fried chicken and chess pies, it might be time for the upgrade.

Contact Diane in the office for more information.

Dog Days at MSSA



Just a reminder to all that have dogs coming to the Assembly. They have to be up to date on shots and the office needs current rabies records on file. They can be emailed, faxed, or mailed to Diane Cruise at Diane@mssa1882.org.

Meet and Eat with Youth Staff

What better way to meet the 2014 Youth Staff than to host them for dinner? We still need a few volunteers to host meals for the youth staff during orientation. If you are interested in meeting our wonderful team before the season begins, we would love to have breakfast, lunch or dinner on Thursday, June 6 or breakfast on Friday, June 7. Please to contact Jenny Jervis via email (jennyjervis@comcast.net) or cell ([615-337-3217](tel:615-337-3217)) to schedule.

Landscaping Delay

Our Landscaping Time has unfortunately been postponed due to the bad weather. We will begin to plant in earnest after Graduation Week is over on May 12. The pots are ready with nice new soil so anyone interested in planting while on the Mountain during the month of May should contact Marty Buffington at [\(931\)-924-3249](tel:931-924-3249) or mbuff@blomand.net.

Committee reminder: There will be a Landscaping Committee meeting on Saturday, June 14, at 4 p.m. in the Chapel.

Thanks a Trillium!

Great weather and great teamwork made Trails and Trilliums 2014 one for the record books! More than 800 people attended our three day festival benefiting Friends of The South Cumberland. My heartfelt thanks to each of you who lead hikes, prepared the art exhibition, presented programs, helped with registration and warmly welcomed our guests to the Assembly. And to all of you who came out in "phlox" to participate in activities including the ART for the PARK Preview Party and the Wine and Wildflowers reception, thank you for your generous support.

Save the Date for Trails and Trilliums 2015...April 10-12!

*Linda Parrish
Chair, Trails and Trilliums 2014*

Cottages Available for Transfer:

#6	Windcrest	\$550,000 NEW LISTING
#7	Corner Cottage	\$619,000
#30	Balconies	\$900,000
#35	Peavine	\$425,000
#49	Tranquil Eyster	\$450,000
#98	Idlehour	\$390,000
#129	Hallelujah	\$450,000
#136	Endevor	\$595,000
#146	Boutcher	\$595,000
#148	Brookview	\$545,000
#156	Robin Hill	\$250,000
#165	Once Upon A Time	\$785,000



A Walk in the Woods

I spent a recent afternoon blazing the remainder of our trail system, and it's in great shape. What a wonderful reason to be outdoors! I'm just learning the trail system and thought I'd share some news and observations in case you want to explore this delightful part of the Assembly.

The lower nature loop off the stagecoach trail is very rocky, as are all the trails off the side of the mountain, and **doesn't appear to get much use.**

Poison ivy and stinging nettle are emerging, so beware. FYI, this trail is blazed in orange and for a short distance shares the same path as the stagecoach trail.

The loop trail out of the parking lot on Highway 41 is now blazed in yellow. The shortest connection to the stagecoach trail is the yellow blazed trail to the right of the gate that ascends quickly up the mountain. The stagecoach trail is soon reached. Turn right to go up the mountain and come out at the campground. Bear left and follow the blue blazed stagecoach trail all the way to the waterfall or follow the yellow blazes as you loop back to the parking lot. For a short distance you will notice blue and yellow blazes on the same tree as the stagecoach trail and nature loop share the footpath. On the way to the waterfall, the orange blazed

lower loop can be accessed. The stagecoach trail is the only trail that breaks the bluff line and descends the mountain. This trail is wet in



places and very rocky but is well worth the effort. Watch for the blue blazes, especially where you see two side by side on the same tree. This indicates a sharp change in direction and the need for a look about to see which direction the trail is going. The spring wildflower display has been incredible, as is the old growth timber. Also, the rock formations along the bluff when viewed from below are spectacular. I recommend proper footwear and water, **especially if you're doing a down and up**, although this trail is perfect for a shuttle.

The trails on top of the **mountain aren't as rugged.** The white blazed east and west nature trails are rarely level. The west trail can be accessed at Warrens Point. Eventually, after a side trail to Waldrop Woods is passed, this trail emerges from the woods at the

Assembly fence corner across from the recreation field. The white blazed east trail can be accessed at the recreation field. After a few minutes of walking, the blue blazed stagecoach trail is encountered on the right. Follow it to the campground and all the way to the waterfall and Highway 41. Continue following the white blazes and soon the gazebo at Warrens Point comes into view

The Waldrop Woods trail is blazed in red. It can be accessed at the Waldrop Woods gate, and can also be reached from the west nature trail as described above. It is the least strenuous of all our trails but still is an up and down lovely winding walk through the woods.

Each trail is unique, and each new walk on a familiar trail can be rewarding. We are committed to keeping our trail system well blazed and our trails passable. If you are out on the trails and notice something that needs attention, please let us know. Happy hiking!

*Rick Duncan,
Facilities Superintendent*



Welcome Gate Staff 2014

The 2014 gate staff is ready to welcome you and your family to another enjoyable, fun-filled and relaxing summer. It's my pleasure to introduce you to our seasoned staff. Please remember that it is part of their job to ask to see your gate ticket and car pass. Together let's all make this a safe and unforgettable summer.

Marian Farmer is returning for her 10th season. She is an Assembly member and resides with her mother, Mary Ellen Haley, at Stonecourt each year. Marian lives in Austin, Texas, and enjoys traveling and watercolor art. Her daughter and two grandchildren live in California. She is an asset to our gate staff as she is very familiar with all areas of Assembly life. Marian enjoys her stay here and time with her family.



edible and flower gardening as well as camping and outdoor activities.

Dustin Dudley will be graduating from Maryville College in May with a bachelor's degree in physical education and a minor in business. He will be continuing his education attending graduate school. Dustin also plays semi-pro football with the East Tennessee Pirates. He became a proud new dad in March with the birth of his son Weston. He is returning for his 4th year with us.



Andrea Cleek has been a part of gate and summer office staff and is returning for her 6th year. She is also part of our staff for Sewanee events. She has been a teacher's aide at Palmer Elementary for 18 years where she coaches the girls basketball team. Andrea is married and has three children. She is a proud grandmother of her first grandson, and she enjoys reading and spending time with her family.



Marian Perritt will be joining our gate staff for her 3rd year. She has been a part time employee in the office this past winter and spring. Marian is also employed by Sewanee's McClurg Dining facility. A native of Tampa, Florida, Marian has lived in Altamont for 15 years. She has a son and grandson in Mesa, Arizona, where she travels every chance she gets. She enjoys cooking, reading and her time spent here at the Assembly.

I feel that we have a reliable and conscientious staff who will serve the Assembly well. Make sure you take a minute to say hello and get to know them if you haven't met then in the past.

*Diane Cruise,
Business Manager*

Next, we are happy to welcome back Ben Dudley for his 5th season. He is also part of our security staff for special occasions. Ben has worked for M-Tec Inc. since 1989 and at the University of the South Fowler Center, for eight years. Ben and his wife, Mary Lou, are natives of Sewanee and enjoy fishing and riding his motorcycle.



Teresa Blalock will be returning for her 4th stint at MSSA. She has been employed by Monteagle Elementary as a teacher's assistant for nine years. Teresa and her husband, Jay, reside in Monteagle and have three daughters and two grandchildren. She enjoys both

Count Your Blessings



The Chapel committee is collecting favorite table blessings or graces for our dining hall tables. We will print them and place them on each table in stands for protection and easy visibility for those who would like to use them before meals. Please email your favorite blessings, as many as you like, to cullen704@gmail.com. Or send them by mail to Cullen Hornaday, 704 Braeview Rd., Louisville, KY, 40206. We've already received a few lovely ones that are new to me, and we look forward to receiving many more. Thanks for your help with this project!

Cullen Hornaday, Warren Chapel Committee Chair

Assembly Family

Prayer List

If you know of an MSSA member, family or friend who needs our prayers, please send them to Mountain Voices (if appropriate), so we can put the power of many prayers to work! On the prayer list this month:

Hayes Haney
Bob Monfore

Jean Andrews Eager, 87, of Albany, Ga., died April 1, 2014, at her residence. Survivors include her daughters, Karen Andrews Eager of Atlanta, Rebekah Eager

Daniel of Sasser, Ga., and Virginia Ware Eager of Chattanooga, Tenn., her grandchildren, Louis Emil Girardin, Jr., Kameron Andrews Girardin, Cristen Daniel, Martha Daniel, Jon Eager Daniel, Holly and Hunter Eager, Rett and Evans Smith and twelve great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene Morehead Eager, and her son, Eugene Morehead Eager, Jr. Memorials to Ben Mathis Rivers of the World Ministry, Charity League scholarship fund or the Salvation Army are appreciated.

Earl L. Walker, passed away on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at the age of 89. Earl was preceded in death

by his wife Nina, his parents Maggie and Elbert Walker, his brothers James and Russell Glenn Walker and sister-in-law Nelsie Walker. He is survived by his children Carolyn, Sharon (Todd Young), Wayne, Paula (Neil Kunkel), grandchildren Kimberly Young McFarland (Andy), Bret Walker, Maggie and Sarah Kunkel and great-grandchildren Megan and Molly McFarland, brother Charles Walker and wife Helen, sister-in-law Verlie Walker, half-brother Carlos Pence and wife Ruth. Expressions of sympathy can be made to the American Heart Association.

ARC Project Submission Deadlines

Planning a renovation project? The Architectural Review Committee will accept projects for review and recommendation to the Board of Trust for approval four times per year. Questions about possible projects, the process, and necessary requirements should be referred to the General Manager. Projects submitted by the following dates will be reviewed and presented at the board meeting following the submission.

January 15 May 1 July 15 September 30

The ARC is available throughout the year to advise members on their project planning prior to submission of a request. Not sure if you need ARC approval? Check with the General Manager first.

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Call Security

For any non-emergency, please call 931-607-8615 to report a disturbance or anything that seems odd or out of the ordinary.

[Always call 911 for Emergencies.](#)

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.