

MOUNTAIN VOICES



Volume 13, Issue 16

Monteagle Sunday School Assembly

October 2012

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: Lots Happening

October is off to a busy start with Sewanee Parents' Week, two member weddings and ending with Sewanee Homecoming. In addition to all the "extra" activities, the Assembly has mapped out several ambitious off-season projects. The Board of Trustees has approved resurfacing the Mall tennis courts, radio communications upgrades, Mason Bridge repair, a new Chautauqua House roof, the final phase of signage, a new roof for the Moses Rock Gazebo, and a comprehensive road resurfacing project. A review and upgrade to the MSSA website is beginning as well. Additionally, we have the

yearly landscaping, tree removal, and grounds maintenance in progress. It will be an active time

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2011 MSSA Calendar

- Oct 22-29 Sewanee Homecoming Week
- Nov 24 Board Meeting
- Feb 23 Board Meeting
- Apr 12-14 Trails & Trilliums

From the President: Willing Volunteers

September is ending, and it always leaves me with memories. When September 11, 2001, dawned in New York City, I was at work at St. Clare's Hospital in midtown Manhattan, the closest hospital to St. Vincent's Hospital and the World Trade Center towers. As the devastation became clear, my world changed dramatically. Responsible for public relations, I gave press conferences

every two hours to a mostly foreign press eager for snippets of news. People seeking word about their loved ones and those searching for their children in the World Trade Center child care center all gathered at our doors and in our lobby. The entire experience was surreal and one of shock and disbelief.

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From the General Manager

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for the staff and crew with some noticeable improvements next summer. As always, I ask that you give them your support and encouragement . . . it means more than you know.

I also have exciting news about the Community Fund of the South Cumberland Plateau (CFSCP), an important outreach project that the Assembly was instrumental in creating.

Designed to serve the needs of the people of the mountain through new initiatives, the fund got off to an impressive start, and the MSSA provided the very first gift. Ten months later, we are nearing our first year goal of \$250,000. The first round of grants will be awarded on November 4, 2012, at a celebration at the Monteagle Inn at 3 p.m. I hope as many of you as possible can attend.

A CFSCP newsletter is attached detailing many of the fund’s first year accomplishments. I’m proud to be involved with both the MSSA and the CFSCP; both incredible organizations with admirable purposes.

Scott Parrish



From the President

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But the most amazing part of that experience was the volunteers. People came to help in any capacity. Nurses, doctors, technologists, and others came from attending conferences, enjoying vacations, and visiting friends. They came in volume, put on scrubs and lab coats. We lined the city blocks with cots and people prepared to care for survivors and injured. Everyone’s affiliation with country, language or faith was not questioned, and we leaned on each other for support and hope.

Like NYC, the Assembly has people who are willing to



help; some in front and others behind the scenes. “It takes a village” is a mantra now that refers to complicated situations that require the input of many people to achieve a goal. We have the opportunity for our “village” to help with the needs of the Assembly. As the year progresses I hope you will find a way to participate and help, lend a hand and be part of the “village.” Your support is critical and exemplifies the Assembly at its best.

Pat Wildman

Remember the Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Assembly will again be holding a canned food drive at the Day After Thanksgiving Dinner in the dining hall, and the Outreach committee hopes you will participate.

Non-perishable food items, peanut butter, canned meats, pasta, rice, dried beans, mac 'n cheese are great options and are much

appreciated by the Grundy County Food Bank. Clean out your cupboard or head to the Piggly Wiggly and stock up and bring your donations to the Dining Hall on potluck day. We will have collection boxes at the door.



Feeding the Community

*Thank you,
Ginny Gordon,
Outreach*

MSSA Outreach Makes Contributions to Community

MSSA's Outreach program continues to make a tangible difference in the community we call home. This year, the committee made several meaningful donations, thanks to our Outreach fund and the generosity of our members. The following donations were disbursed for the 2011-2012 year:

- \$1,400 to Grundy County High School for art supplies (these funds, along with about \$500 from MSSA Education Fund are the only funds GCHS receives for its art program!)
- \$1,500 to Monteagle Elementary for Math Works Program and PE supplies
- \$1,000 to GCHS 4-H program for students to attend 4-H camp
- \$300 to May Justus Memorial Library in Monteagle for children's books
- \$500 to the Mountain Goat Trail for its continuing work on the bike trail
- \$300 to the Monteagle Volunteer Fire Department

September Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights

The board of trustees met on September 1, 2012, and there were several highlights that will be of interest to the general membership.

A search committee has been appointed to fill the Platform Director position. Cyndy Hudgins will chair the search committee with help from members Kent Ballow, Cecil Coleman, Scott Parrish and Pat Wildman. The hiring decision will be made by February 1, and the new superintendent will work with Lisa Hammett next spring and summer.

The pool experienced a water quality problem that resulted in the pool closure this year. Madison Pools from Nashville has evaluated the pool and found a problem with the pump that will be



corrected during the off season.

Coyotes have been seen on the grounds. Security is monitoring this.

Scott Parrish has conferred with Sewanee's Dean and Associate Dean about behavior in the Assembly during Sewanee Parents Weekend. Eight areas will be jointly

addressed and University leadership will send a letter to our renters of record reminding them of their responsibility to be good social hosts and guests of the Assembly.

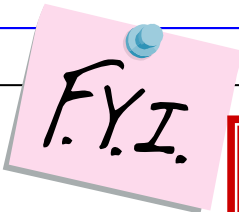
Per the treasurer's report, gate receipts for the 2012 Season were \$193,000

Kent Ballow reported that the long-range planning committee would like to hire a consultant to assist the Assembly in developing a long range strategic plan. They are considering several individuals/firms and will obtain bids. The process will take nine months to a year and will build on previous work done at the Assembly delineating our vision and analyzing our strengths and weaknesses and potential opportunities and threats.

Any member wishing to see the approved minutes may contact the secretary, Mary Susan Kennedy msbkennedy@gmail.com for a copy.



Know where this is located?



Bits and Pieces

Welcome New Member

Please welcome our newest member, Dr. Patricia Schneider of St. Francisville, Louisiana, who has purchased Cottage #25.

Prayers

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Crais family. David Crais is in Vanderbilt Hospital, Nashville.

Office notes

The 2013 Member Directory will be mailed out in January, so the office staff is already preparing, updating and readying the document for 2013. Be sure to check out the letter from the office in this month's Mountain Voices mailing requesting any changes to the directory and respond as quickly as possible.

This is a valuable tool for Assembly members, committee chairs and staff, and we need to keep it current!

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
#148	Brookview	\$725,000
#156	Robin Hill	\$295,000
#165	Once Upon A time	\$850,000



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Security Update

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.