

MOUNTAIN VOICES



Volume 15, Issue 10

Monteagle Sunday School Assembly

October 2014

The mission of the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly Is . . .

. . . to be a welcoming community of Christian faith where people gather to engage in spiritual growth and renewal, lifelong inquiry and learning, recreational and cultural enrichment, while being good stewards of our natural resources and our Assembly heritage.

From the President Mapping the Future

Last month, I shared with you the mission and values that have been rearticulated as part of our strategic plan. This month, I want to share the goals and strategies that have been adopted to support our mission as we move forward.

While these goals all include language such as "improve," "increase," "grow," etc., it should be noted that the surveys and public forums did not note any glaring areas of deficiency. In fact, satisfaction was high in all measured areas. But of course, improving and staying focused on what we value are key reasons why a plan is needed for any organization that wants to stay relevant and ready for challenges that come our way.

In July 2014, the Board approved the following goals and related strategies:

Goal 1. Enhance the Overall Assembly Quality of Life
Strategy A. Create a more

welcoming atmosphere

Strategy B. Improve communication among members, friends and visitors

Strategy C. Enhance community outreach and service programs

Strategy D. Be more environmentally friendly

Strategy E. Enhance our diversity

Goal 2. Increase Participation Among All Groups in Programs, Events and Activities.

Strategy A. Increase platform appeal to all participant groups

Strategy B. Increase marketing and outreach to potential visitors

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Goal 3. Periodically Evaluate the Governing Structure and Practices of MSSA.

Strategy A. Periodically perform a legal/tax status study

Strategy B. Periodically review board structure and governing policies

Goal 4. Increase the Financial/Fiscal Sustainability of MSSA, Define measurable benchmarks.

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2014 MSSA Calendar

October 13-19 Sewanee
Family Week

November 7-9 Sewanee
Homecoming

November 22
Board Meeting 9AM

Mountain Voices
Ann Ewing, editor
Martha Ann Pilcher, design/layout

Deadline to submit items for the next issue is Sept. 25th. Send articles to aewing62@gmail.com

From the President

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Strategy A. Facilitate leasehold transfers

Strategy B. Grow the endowment

Strategy C. Promote membership growth

Strategy D. Increase non-member revenues

Goal 5. Determine the Ideal Physical Plant and Footprint to Expand and Enhance Assembly Grounds.

Strategy A. Evaluate potential expansion of Assembly footprint to protect and enhance the mission

Strategy B. Evaluate feasibility and need for year round facilities

Strategy C. Define facilities maintenance/replacement plan

Goal 6. Increase/Enhance Overall Marketing and Promotional Efforts

Strategy A. Target potential members and renters

Strategy B. Market to increase gate revenues

When the full plan is ready and approved, these goals will be handed to the appropriate committees or task forces to work on. Wise minds among our population will begin to implement these strategies, some of which will likely take years. While it is designed to be a five-year plan, based on my experience with the pace of MSSA, it will no doubt live

longer. It may also evolve and change a bit, as it is a guideline, not a mandate.

After a lengthy process that encouraged hundreds of voices to chime in, what is clear to me is this: We are a unique organization with a strong sense of what we value and what we want MSSA to continue to be long after we are gone. We care

deeply about the future of MSSA. With that kind of loyalty and dedication, MSSA will, without a doubt, continue to thrive, while staying true to its history and traditions. Thank you to everyone who helped create this plan for our future.

Kent Ballow

Summer 2015

Dreaming of summer 2015? The 133rd season is set for June 7 through August 2, So mark your calendars and start the countdown!

Buy Local, Give Local

Your outreach committee is pleased to announce the **100 percent local disbursements** this year of outreach funding. Funds are generated by your generous offerings on Outreach Sunday offering, 10 percent of non-designated annual fund gifts, and individual donations directly to outreach.

This year, all funds were donated to outstanding local causes:

- ✓ May Justus Memorial Library for children's book: \$300:
- ✓ 4-H Congress, students attend on scholarship: \$1000
- ✓ Monteagle Volunteer Fire Department (for whom we are very grateful): \$700
- ✓ Mountain Goat Trail: \$1000
- ✓ Grundy County Food Bank: \$500
- ✓ South Cumberland Community Fund: \$1000
- ✓ Camp Discovery and Discover Together Program (outreach to

local youth and adults to teach about the rich environment on the mountain): \$1000

It's always nice to know our efforts are appreciated! We received this thank you note from the South Cumberland Community Fund:

We're grateful for the continuing support of MSSA and thank you! You all, who enjoy the mountain so much, have this opportunity to support the change coming to the Plateau through the organizations serving their communities. We all feel lucky to be involved in this moment of promise and change and welcome your partnership with us.

*Sincerely,
Leah Rhys, South Cumberland
Community Fund*

Ginny Gordon, co-chair, Outreach Committee

Cottages Available for Transfer:

Those in red have been **REDUCED**.



#6	Windcrest	\$550,000
#98	Idlehour	\$275,000
#129	Hallelujah	\$375,000
#136	Endevor	\$595,000
#146	Boutcher	\$595,000
#156	Robin Hill	\$250,000



Assembly Family

News and Notes

Happy Birthday Katie Grace!
Katie Grace Montgomery was born July 22, 2014. She was welcomed by her parents, Eleanor and Tom Montgomery and her sisters, Ella and Frances. She is the granddaughter of Anne and Bob Monfore.

Prayers

Sydney Rolston Gribben of Chattanooga died on September 10,

2014. Sydney was the sister of Peggy Rolston Smith, former owner of leasehold #30. Peggy and Sydney served as hostesses at Winfield for a number of summers and were also avid tennis players. Sydney will also be remembered for playing the piano at Twilight Prayers and church services for several summers. A memorial service was held September 20 in Clinton, Tennessee. Memorial donations may be made to The First Baptist

Church, P.O. Box 268, Clinton, TN 37717



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.

September 30 January 15 May 1 July 15

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.