

Mountain Musings

Asheville Civitan Club, Inc.
PO Box 1755, Asheville, NC 28802

Asheville Civitan Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 1755, Asheville, NC 28802



Asheville Civitan Club
Officers and Directors, 2001-2002
Officers:
President - Carla Sutherland
Pres. Elect. - Richard Richards
Secretary - William Pomeroy
Treasurer - Frank Holby

Directors:
Robert Mayer, Ralph Scarritt, Robert
Welch, MaryAlice Chutter, Walter
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Ex officio: Gary Hannah, Jim Sawyer

Chaplains: Charles Johnson, Mason
Wilson, Bancroft Smith

Sgts-at-Arms: Don Fox, Lawrence
Wilson, Robert Potter, Larry Knees

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Publisher: SysAdmin Services, Inc.



Asheville Civitan Club,
Inc.
Builders of Good Citizenship
82nd Year of Service
Mountain Musings is the
official weekly bulletin of
The Asheville Civitan Club
and
The Asheville Civitan

Asheville Civitan Foundation
Officers and Directors, 2001-2002
Officers:
President - Gary Hannah
Vice President - Ahmad Amara
Secretary - Richard Smith
Treasurer - Murray Hollyday

Directors:
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Gile, Mark Matthews, Bancroft Smith,
Ex officio: Carla Sutherland, James
Sawyer, Frank Holby, Scholarship Chair

Past Governor NC District West:
William M. Pomeroy, Jr.

Past Lt. Governors NC District West:
Robert Gray, 1998-1999
Ralph Scarritt, 1995-1996
Fred Rutledge, 1994-1995

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Foundation

www.ashevillecivitan.org

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2002

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 12:00 NOON

“LIFE AFTER CANCER”

JON HETRICK, Director of Alumni Affairs at Warren Wilson College, will speak about his personal battle with cancer: the physical and mental challenges one faces during the course of the disease and the attitude adjustments needed following its remission.

ALFRED TUCK GUDGER will give the invocation.

ROBERT POTTER will be the greeter.

MENU FOR TUESDAY: Taco Salad * Chips * Green Salad * Fruit Bowl
Assorted Desserts * Coffee * Tea * Milk

BOARD MEETINGS

Both the **Club** and **Foundation Boards** will meet this week, the former again at **McGuffey's Restaurant** at noon on August 19 and the latter in the Conference Room of Trinity Episcopal Church at 11:30 a.m. on August 20.

GOOD NEWS

The Asheville Citizen-Times lauded our own **BOB WEILER** and his wife **Lucretia** as “**Hometown Heroes**” in its August 12th edition for their part in founding *Caring for Children*, an organization serving children with troubled pasts. It first opened *Our Place*, an emergency shelter for children who cannot live at home; then came *Cornerstone*, a residential home for teen-age girls. Next was *Counterpoint*, established to assist children who have been involved in the court system. *Project Home Base* serves children and their families in their own homes. And now, with the addition of *Angel’s Watch* offering respite care for families with young children, *Caring for Children* now offers a continuation of care for children from birth to age 18. **Mrs. Weiler** is quoted as saying, “When anybody tells me they can’t make a difference, I tell them this story. I always feel like you can’t sit still.”

“THE PROBLEMS FACING ASHEVILLE”

CHARLES WORLEY, Mayor of the City of Asheville, began by reminding the **Club**, with tongue in cheek, that he asked for the job. But he hardly could guess that the city would be facing a budget crisis of such proportions in his first year in office. The state is expecting a 1.8 billion dollar shortfall this fiscal year and this translates to a 2.7 million dollar reduction in state revenues to the City of Asheville. This loss is the result of the state’s not returning to the city its share of sales tax revenues and its withholding of utility franchise fees—taxes for the use of rights of way. Although the city has passed an interim budget based on last year’s, the final budget must be passed by August 29. The tax bills dictating the level of sales tax allowed, crucial to the city’s planning, are now in a conference committee in Raleigh. The council hopes that the results will be favorable to local governments. Whatever the outcome, the city real estate tax rate will be adjusted accordingly.

The second problem delineated by **Mayor WORLEY** is the Regional Water Agreement entered into with Henderson County. He acknowledged mistakes by the City Council, especially the untoward delay in signing the agreement and the heated disagreement over building a regional water line to service a Henderson County business. Although the line was finally built—a 500’, 12” line costing \$80,000.00—it only serves one customer for which a 1” line would be adequate. Because of inadequate use, the line must be flushed every two weeks at a cost of \$900.00 each. The Authority will meet soon and the Mayor hopes that this problem will be resolved. As to the future, he feels strongly that a workable regional agreement can be reached that is reasonable and fair to both parties.

The final problem dealt with in depth by the speaker was the Civic Center. There is no doubt that the facility as it now stands is outdated and in bad repair. He strongly supports the concept, after five years of study, of rebuilding on the present site. The plan envisions renovating Thomas Wolfe Auditorium into an all-purpose arena and building a new Fine Arts Center at the rear of the existing structure, to be separately funded. This plan, he feels, will present to users a kind of synergistic complex that can accommodate everything from conventions to large media events. He dismissed problems of parking and access as secondary to the desirability of a downtown location—the ambience of the central city. But the final decision will have to await the sifting out of several ventures now in the talking stages: a new sports arena; a performing arts center, and a crafts center. When one or all of these plans come together or fall through, probably by the first of next year, disposition of the Civic Center will be finalized.

In spite of these problems, and a host of lesser issues, **Mayor WORLEY** is optimistic that they can be overcome and that Asheville can continue to be a vibrant, growing city endowed with great scenic beauty and an historically rich past. **Asheville Civitans** can only say Amen to that.

SIGNS

On a front door: “Everyone is a vegetarian except the dog.”

On a fence: “Salesmen welcome. Dog food is expensive.”

Outside a muffler shop: “No appointment necessary, we will hear you coming.”

In a veterinarian’s waiting room: “Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!”

In a restaurant window: “Don’t stand there and be hungry, come in and get fed.”

Inside a bowling alley: “Please be quiet. We need to hear a pin drop.”

At a car dealership: “The best way to get back on your feet, miss a car payment.”

At an optometrist’s office: “If you don’t see what you’re looking for, you’ve come to the right place.”