

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
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Officers:
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Treasurer - Frank Holby

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Mountain Musings Editor: Roger Hill
e-mail: rhill@ashevillecivitan.org
Publisher: T. Keith Thomson



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
Foundation

Asheville Civitan Foundation
Officers and Board Members, 2001-
2002

Officers:
President - Gary Hannah
Vice President - Ahmad Amara
Secretary - Richard Smith
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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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www.ashevillecivitan.org

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2002

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 12:00 NOON

“WHY IS YOUR WATER BILL SO HIGH?”

GARY SEMLAK, former member of the Asheville/Buncombe Water Authority and a Black Mountain resident, will explain the causes for high water bills and discuss how the aging system, the water source problems and politics enter into pricing.

JOHN DANKLE will give the invocation.

JOHN MANCHESTER will be the greeter.

MENU FOR TUESDAY: Roasted Red Pepper and Feta Cheese Quiche * Salad
Fruit Bowl * Assorted Desserts * Coffee * Tea * Milk

AREA 1 WEST SUMMER MEETING

Plan now to attend the **Area 1 West** summer meeting on June 10 in Hendersonville. Registration is at 11 a.m. at **The Chariot**, Seventh Avenue and Church Street. Sign up with **President SUTHERLAND** or **President-elect RICHARDS** so reservations may be made.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS RECOGNITION

LARRY McCALLUM, Special Olympics Committee Chair, received a “tribute” notice from *Special Olympics* headquarters for the **Club’s** participation in the recent track and field events at Roberson High School. Another “thank you” note was received from Vice-mayor Bellamy who concluded, “You are a wonderful asset to the community.”

BOARD MEETING NEWS

The May 20 meeting of the **Club Board of Directors** mostly revolved around reports from two committee chairs, **AHMAD AMARA’S Scholarship Committee** and **WAYNE RUMBLE’S Adopt-a-Highway Committee**. Proposals from the former were thoroughly discussed as they involved some changes in the stated Club Policy. No final conclusion was reached. **WAYNE** was discouraged by the turnout for his first experience as **Chair of Adopt-a-Highway**, but hopes to attract new hands by preparing an advanced schedule for clean-ups and to entice more **Jr. Civitans** from Roberson to participate.

Apparently the use of the Fine Friends Restaurant as a meeting place was not entirely satisfactory so other restaurants will be explored as possibilities.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Accompanying the speaker from **Brevard College** was its **Director of Alumni Affairs, David Hoskins**. Present as a guest was a **Brevard** alumna, **Lucille Phillips**. Among our own members, **WALTON BORING** and **JESSE LEDBETTER** are also alumni.

J. WILLIAM MONCRIEF - PRESIDENT, BREVARD COLLEGE

Introduced by **JESSE LEDBETTER, Dr. MONCRIEF** began by announcing that “there is a lot going on at Brevard College.” And indeed there is. Only five years as a four-year institution, the college has already been cited as one of the top 25 in the southeast and the 6th “best buy” by *U.S. News and World Report* in its annual survey of colleges. Both the men and women’s basketball teams won their regular-season conference championships and participated in the NAIA Division II tournaments. There is a good deal of building going on: to Jones Residence Hall and to the baseball field. The Porter Center was opened two years ago and is a tremendous facility for the performing arts.

On the academic side, two new majors have been approved, in psychology and in theatre. The Wilderness Experience, Music, and Business majors have long been strengths at Brevard and continue to do well. Looking to the future, **Dr. MONCRIEF**, who came to Brevard out of retirement as an interim president but is now its permanent head, was enjoined by the Board of Directors to develop a “Strategic Plan,” the first draft of which was submitted last month. It contains, as do most long-range plans, both a “vision” and a “mission.” Along with these ingredients is a financial plan that lays out ways of supporting them.

Dr. MONCRIEF envisions a quality liberal arts college combined with the comprehensive model of applied education. The emphasis is upon interdisciplinary studies with a major in applied areas such as music, business, etc. “There are too many History and English majors,” he says, “waiting on table.” In other words, after a sound basic education, what can the student do to earn a living? Liberal arts has always had adaptability (look at the changes from the 18th century model) so why not add a bit of pragmatism to the traditional mix.

There are, to **Dr. MONCRIEF**, three components of a successful long-range plan: 1. Pragmatic Dreaming 2. Strategic Management 3. Building from strength. The first sounds like a contradiction in terms, but both elements are necessary for sound planning. Without a vision there is no future, but it must be tempered by practical considerations. Strategic Management is the key to financial success. One of the obvious needs, one shortly to be addressed, is a major capital campaign.

Questioned about admission criteria, **Dr. MONCRIEF** said that SAT scores were looked at, but far more important was the student’s attitude and motivation and stressed that face-to-face interviews were the best way of judging those. He placed total yearly costs at about \$18,000.00, but said that 65 to 70 per cent receive some financial aid and that average costs, with aid, across the campus were 10 to 11 thousand dollars per year. Asked about growth, he felt that ten to eleven thousand students were about maximum for the school to retain the identity that it wishes to maintain. He also stressed the connection the school has with the Methodist Church, feeling that both historically and philosophically the campus has benefitted from the atmosphere that relationship conveys.