

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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Treasurer - Frank Holby

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Asheville Civitan Club, Inc.
Builders of Good Citizenship
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Mountain Musings is the official
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Civitan Club
and
The Asheville Civitan Foundation
www.ashevillcivitan.org

Asheville Civitan Foundation
Officers and Board Members for 2002-2003
Officers:
President - Ahmad Amara (00)
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Treasurer - Robert Welch (02)

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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

TUESDAY, January 28, 2003

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 12:00 NOON

OPENING BLUE RIDGE MOTION PICTURES

LEANNE M. CAMPBELL, Studio Head of *Blue Ridge Motion Pictures*, will speak of its beginnings, its current projects, and the hopes for its future.

CLARK WALTER will give the invocation.

Gen. RICHARD JEWETT will be the greeter.

MENU FOR TUESDAY: Assorted Sandwiches * Green Salad * Fruit Bowl
Chips * Assorted Desserts * Beverages

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE CLUB WILL NOT MEET ON JANUARY 21, 2003 AS PER THE CLUB BOARD'S DECISION TO CANCEL FOLLOWING MONDAY NATIONAL HOLIDAYS.

BOARD MEETINGS

Because there is no **Club** meeting on January 21, the regular third-week **Board** meetings have been moved to the fourth week. The **Club Board** will meet at McGuffey's Restaurant on January 27 at noon and the **Foundation Board** will meet at 11:30 a.m. on January 28 in the Conference Room of Trinity Episcopal Church.

MEMBERSHIP KICK-OFF

NORMA MESSER, Chair of the **Membership Campaign Committee**, has set February 11, 2003 as the kick-off date for the campaign. She stresses that **everyone** in the **Club** needs to be involved. Some members have agreed to act as the Core group and it will meet on January 28 at 11:30 a.m. prior to the regular meeting to make specific plans. **NORMA** thanks **BILL POMEROY** and **JOHN TRAW** for their help with the work so far.

SICK BAY

CARLA SUTHERLAND should be back with us by the end of the month. **LARRY WILSON** is out of Intensive Care in Winston-Salem and is doing better following major surgery.

CIVITAN SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Civitan International Foundation** has announced a program of scholarships known as the **Shropshire Scholarship**. Candidates must be a Civitan, a Civitan's immediate family member or a Junior Civitan, for at least two years. Recipients receive a maximum of \$1000.00. The awards will be announced in May. Copies of the scholarship application are available at www.civitan.org. For further information, see **AHMAD AMARA, Chair of the Scholarship Committee**. Applications must be received in the Civitan International office postmarked no later than January 31.

BREVARD COLLEGE

JESSE LEDBETTER, an alumnus, introduced **Dr. DREW L. VanHORN, President of Brevard College** who spoke about the place of small private colleges in the educational scheme of things and, in particular, his vision for **Brevard College**. An All-American basketball player in his high school and college days, he recalled once guarding NBA great James Worthy. Of course Worthy dominated the game and, toward the end, he vaulted over his opponent and slam dunked the ball. He picked **Dr. VanHORN** up and whispered to him, "Keep the faith, brother, it won't be much longer."

One of the problems facing colleges today, and will be facing them increasingly in the near future, is the influx of poorly prepared minorities entering college. Smaller colleges have an advantage over larger institutions in this regard in that they can retool more quickly and, generally, have a much lower student/teacher ratio so that one-on-one and remedial teaching can be more easily accomplished. Another problem is that many youngsters are strung out on medications such as *Prozac* because their attention spans are nil. They are not psychologically ready to grow up. Many of them want the college to change to suit them whereas colleges say, "You change!"

Brevard College, like many small colleges in North Carolina, began as an Institute, a kind of private high school. It metamorphosed into a Junior College and is now in transition to a four-year institution. Resources for funding such a change are a number one problem; new housing, larger staff and more classrooms are all needed. And higher costs for these improvements are also worrisome. But in spite of these difficulties, **Dr. VanHORN** makes a strong case for the small, private college. Many students find the large state schools too impersonal with their lecture-type classes and lack of teacher relationships. Also, most small colleges have strong regional ties. **Brevard**, for example, has 150 of its 650 students from the area. Furthermore, there is a savings of about \$7000.00 to the state for every student attending a private in-state college because of the tax subsidy given to state school attendees.

Some of the plans in the works for **Brevard College**, as envisioned by **Dr. VanHORN**, include an increase in student population from the current 650 to 1000 in five years. New majors in education and human services are planned and, most interestingly, a retention scheme that calls for lowering tuition each year that a student stays in academic good graces. Coupled with its traditional strengths in performing arts, environmental studies and liberal arts courses in general, **Brevard** has a bright future. Its motto of **Learn in Order to Serve** fits its mission well.