



# MONTEAGLE SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

· A CHAUTAUQUA EST. 1882 ·

PO Box 307  
Monteagle, TN  
931-924-2286

Volume 23, Issue 9  
September 2022

## From the President

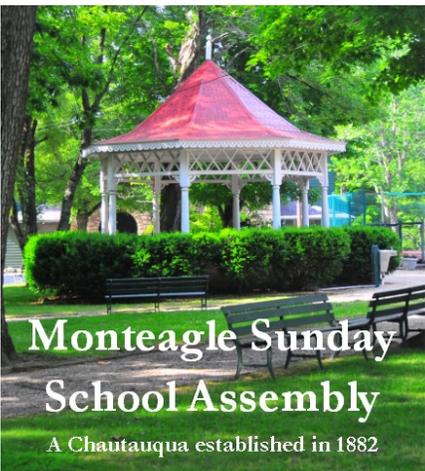
### What a Wonderful Season!

As the last SUV loaded down with bicycles, camping equipment, rackets and tired but happy children and adults bid goodbye to summer and pulled out of the Assembly gates headed back to the “real” world, a group of members were already starting to work on next year’s season! Committees are the backbone of our Assembly and are a huge part of what keeps members and guests engaged, interested and coming back generation after generation!

We can all look forward to what’s in store for us for the 2023 season with this excellent group at the helm! Thank you to the 2022-2023 committee chairs who have agreed to serve:

- ARC - Neil Kunkel
- Archives - Morgan Merrill  
Subcommittee: Historian - Oliver Jervis
- By Laws - Hays Haney
- Cemetery - Bob Hudgins
- Development - Susan Acker
- Education - Dawn Logan
- Finance - Steve Rixham
- Legal - Bill Davis and Hays Haney
- Landscaping - Dot Neale
- Long range planning - Mary Susan Kennedy
- Marketing and Communications - Ann Ewing
- MAEFC - Hilson Merrill
- Master Planning - Paula Walker
- Membership - Anne Byrn Floyd
- Outreach - Mary Balfour Dunlap
- Platform - Ellie Billington
- Property/security/safety - Joel McAlister
- Reforestation - Jennifer Smith
- Tennis - Margaret Rixham  
Pickleball co chairs - David and Mary Anna Malone
- Trails - David Peacock
- Warren Chapel - Frannie Smith
- Welcome - Jamie Green
- Youth - Paige Cleveland and Lyn Knopf

IN THIS ISSUE	
From the President	1
Youth Superintendent	2
ARC Project Deadlines	2
Youth Coordinator	3
Snack Shop	3
MSSA Mission	3
Harton Hall Kudos	4
Housing/leaseholds	4
Safety First	4
Stay Informed	4
AmeriCorpVISTAs	5
In Our Prayers	5
Butterfly Garden	6
Around the Grounds	6



*Have a wonderful fall!  
Amanda Moody*



## Youth Superintendent

What a season! The 140th MSSA Season is in the books! Thank you to all of the families who made it a memorable one. The success of this season was certainly a team effort. I would like to take a moment to thank the following people for the time and love that they gave to the youth program.

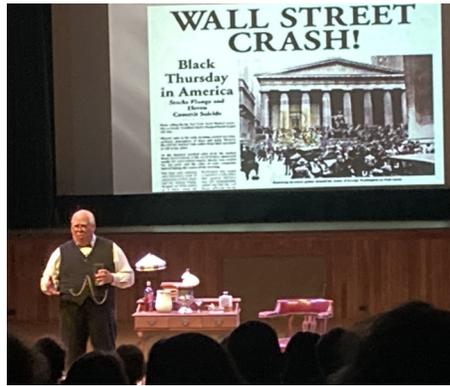
\* Grace Ann Davis who organized and implemented a wonderful program. She guided both our staff and youth. Her “can do” spirit was something that brought a smile to my face each and every day. I could not have done this job without her.

\* Paige Cleveland and Lyn Knopf both put in countless hours planning, reviewing, and discussing every aspect of this program. We started our work last October and we never stopped. Thank you to both ladies for always looking out for the best interests of our youth.

\* Scott Parrish who was always present to make our plans a reality. His support of the youth program is remarkable, and his guidance and knowledge was greatly appreciated. Our Assembly is so fortunate to have him at the helm. Does this man ever sleep?

\* The youth committee for all of their support during orientation and pre-season planning.

\* Georgia Elder and Caroline Wildman for crafting an amazing outdoors program for our youth. The two of them were the dream team for making our excursions challenging and diverse.



\* The talented and dedicated youth staff! What an amazing group of young adults! So very proud of each one of you.

\* Rick Duncan and the grounds crew who were always present making sure that things were set up and our needs anticipated.

\* Becky Nelson and her staff for all their hard work and organization. Becky was wonderful at finding people to support our program.

\* Liz Norrell for putting all of our information out in Mountain Voices. She helped us to keep families informed each week. Thank you!!

\* The Nashville Home Committee for giving our grand lady a much-needed facelift. She just looks amazing, and the staff loved living there!

\* The Nashville Home Fundraiser Committee for their hard work raising money for future maintenance.

\* and finally..... to You!! All of you who have supported our activities and forgiven a few mistakes. We appreciate the love and look forward to seeing you in 2023. Safe travels and happy trails to you, until we meet again!

*Fondly,  
Susan Acker*

## QUICK BITES

**ALL golf carts** must be registered or re-registered every year. Only licensed drivers are legally allowed to drive carts.

**Lawn trimmings** are collected on Wednesdays.

**Dogs** must be registered, including proof of rabies vaccination. Pick up after your pets.

**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.

**Safety first!** Call (931) 607-8615 when the main office is closed for any security questions or concerns.



## 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    February 28    June 10    July 31

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.

## From the Youth Coordinator

What a fabulous summer this has been! It truly flew by, but it was a summer filled with lots of adventures, new memories, porch swinging, pickleball playing, friends, laughter, and joy! I am extremely grateful to many people for making this year's season so successful: to **Susan Acker** who helped coordinate everything behind the scenes and without whom we wouldn't have had a youth program; to **Scott Parrish** for working tirelessly to make sure everything in the Assembly runs smoothly; to **Georgia Elder** for planning the best excursions all summer; to all the wonderful **Youth Staff** who spent countless hours loving on the children of the Assembly; to the **Youth Committee** for supporting our program so well; and to every



parent who drove on an excursion, lent us their car, served at progressive dinners, or just spoke encouraging words to the staff and me. Your help and support have been such a blessing to us this summer.

With this summer coming to a close, we want to start thinking about next year's season. If you would like to join our Youth Staff next summer or have any questions about it, please contact me. I'd love to talk with you about the amazing positions we have available.

That's a wrap on Summer 2022! The Lord bless you and keep you until we are on the mountain together again!

Grace Anne

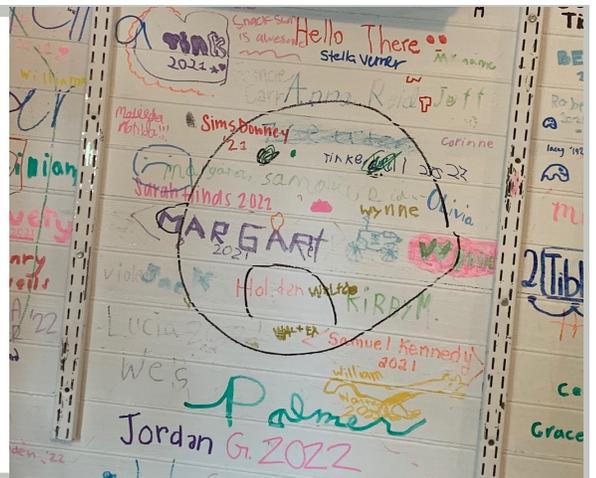
## From the Snack Shop

I'm so sad the Season is over. It went way too fast. Thanks for making the Snack Shop so fun this summer. I had a great time with everyone and can't wait to see you all on the Mountain again soon.

Be sure to ask Scott to add you to his email distribution list so you can keep up with new swag and hear about preorders.

See you in the Snack Shop next summer!

Duncan Knopf



The Montevalle Sunday School Assembly was organized by Charter issued by the State of Tennessee on October 4, 1882 for the purpose of: "... 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."

The Mission of the Montevalle 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.

## Housing Questions? Ask Rhonda!

Interested in possibly being in the rental program? Has your cottage rented to your satisfaction? Do you want to offer your cottage for 3-night rentals or discuss rates?

Contact Rhonda to discuss options or concerns, 931-924-9000.



## Harton Hall Shout Outs

A shout out to just a few of the farmers who supplied us with wonderful local food all summer:

Darlene Seagroves-sunflowers, cucumbers, tiny tomatoes, eggs - Tracy City  
High Meadows Farm - squash, blueberries - Tracy City  
Wild Berry Farm - tomatoes, blackberries, blueberries, Swiss chard - Decherd  
Randy Stevens - eggplant, zucchini, peppers, tomatoes - Sherwood  
Sylvia Ganier, Green Door Gourmet - sweet corn, tomatoes - Nashville

Monteagle Sunday School Assembly

P.O. Box 307

Monteagle, TN 37356

[www.mssa1882.org](http://www.mssa1882.org)

Office 931-924-2286

Fax 931-924-2306

**Executive Director** – W. Scott Parrish

[scott.parrish@mssa1882.org](mailto:scott.parrish@mssa1882.org)

**President** – Amanda Moody

[bmooddy2002@icloud.com](mailto:bmooddy2002@icloud.com)

**Platform Superintendent** – Rebecca Nelson

[rebecca.nelson@mssa1882.org](mailto:rebecca.nelson@mssa1882.org)

**Director of Housing & Guest Services** –

Rhonda Atkins [rhonda.atkins@mssa1882.org](mailto:rhonda.atkins@mssa1882.org)

**Office Manager** – Becky Hammond

[becky.hammond@mssa1882.org](mailto:becky.hammond@mssa1882.org)

**Facility Superintendent** – Rick Duncan

[rick.duncan@mssa1882.org](mailto:rick.duncan@mssa1882.org)

## LEASEHOLDS AVAILABLE



#23 Edgeworth Inn

\$1,675,000

To arrange a tour or for  
more information contact:

W. Scott Parrish,  
General Manager

[scott.parrish@mssa1882.org](mailto:scott.parrish@mssa1882.org)

(931) 924-2286

## SAFETY FIRST

The MSSA security team is at your service. If you have any emergency --medical or otherwise-- call 911, but our seasoned team is here to help for non-emergency situations. If you have a safety issue or see suspicious activity anywhere on the grounds or at the Point, don't hesitate to call (931) 607-8615 after 5 pm or call the office during business hours. There are no silly concerns--it's better to call and quell your fears than to let something go because you are afraid of a false alarm.

Consider putting the security number by your home phone and/or plugging it into your cell phones.

Kids got cell phones? Plug the security number in those too.

Together we'll keep MSSA the safe haven it is!



## MSSA Hosts

### AmeriCorps VISTAs

The AmeriCorps VISTA program is one of the largest VISTA (Volunteers in Service To America) projects in the state of Tennessee, the South Cumberland Plateau AmeriCorps VISTA Project serves an economically depressed region of rural Appalachia, including all of Grundy, and parts Marion and Franklin counties.

The program is jointly sponsored by the University of the South and South Cumberland Community Fund, supporting 14 VISTA projects focused on education, economic opportunity, and healthy futures. Sewanee's Office of Civic Engagement oversees the selection of VISTAs, the administration of the program, and placement in various nonprofit organizations across the plateau. The South



Cumberland Community Fund supplies the funding for the program. Service projects span a wide range of need in our community—from hunger relief, to opioid prevention and recovery, to childhood wellness through trauma-informed care, and much more.

An opportunity arose a few weeks back to rent rooms in the Nashville Home to VISTAs who need housing during their service while the Nashville Home is vacant out of season. This is a win-win for the VISTAs who are only allowed to make a wage at the poverty level and need affordable housing, and

MSSA which has recently renovated space and can produce income to help maintain the building.

MSSA's support of the program in our community is consistent with our mission as a church to support needs in our community and fosters our relationship with the University of the South and the South Cumberland Community Fund.

*Scott Parrish  
Executive Director*

## In Our prayers

Sara Elizabeth Hawthorne Geltz died Monday, Aug. 8, 2022. She was a native resident of Winter Garden and Central Florida. Sara was born April 28, 1956, in Lakeland, Florida, the daughter of William "Bill" Henry Hawthorne and Betty Jean Loffin Hawthorne.

Sara graduated in 1974, from Lakeview High School, and later attended Valencia Community College, where she earned her associate's degree. She worked at U.S. Airways in Orlando, Florida.

Sara and Ted raised their three sons at Oakland Presbyterian Church and were also active members at Mosaic Church in Winter Garden.

Sara enjoyed spending time with her family, going to the beach, Southern Traditions, cooking and traveling. She loved dogs. Every year, she eagerly looked forward to the Fourth of July Picnic at Monteagle Assembly.

She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Theodore "Ted" Hess Geltz Jr.; and their sons Theodore "Tad" Geltz III (Erika); Mitchell



Hawthorne Geltz (Ashlee); and Adam Hardison Geltz (Amanda). She is also survived by the grandchildren she adored, Hadlee, Hardison, Pallen, Mattie and Miller.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mosaic Church Winter Garden and/or Monteagle Sunday School Assembly.

## In the Butterfly Garden, The Season is Just Beginning

As the Assembly season winded down, the season is finally revving up at the Smith-Boeth Monarch Butterfly Waystation. After a period of low numbers of visitors, the garden has come alive this week with an abundance of butterflies. Drifting waves of Swallowtails have been fluttering, playing, and sampling nectar throughout the garden. The most numerous variety is the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, along with lesser numbers of Spicebush Swallowtails and Pipevine Swallowtails.

Sometimes three butterflies would be sharing the same blossom. We might have even had a Black Swallowtail laying eggs on the bronze fennel.

Caterpillars have been few in the garden so far, with one Black Swallowtail caterpillar and a horde



of Silvery Crescent crawlers eating our leaves so far.

Disappointingly, we have not seen a female Monarch visiting the garden, catching just one beautiful male that passed through a few weeks ago. Every year prior we have been fortunate to have at least a couple of Monarch mothers miraculously find our tiny patch of milkweed, and have been overjoyed to have new Monarchs born to help the species, which was just declared threatened. The season is still young for the Monarchs' southern migration, and thousands if not millions will start their way to Mexico from up north in coming weeks.

We remain hopeful our patch of milkweed will come in handy yet and promise to file a dispatch if that happens.

Nature is always full of beauty, wonder, and surprise, even as it dances to its own invisible rhythms. Butterflies never seen in the garden before, like the spictered Giant Swallowtail, passed through, and long-lost friends like the American Lady and the Variegated Fritillary (maybe laying eggs!) returned once again. Our favorite tiny butterfly, the Pearl Crescent, fit comfortably in the bowl of a black-eyed Susan. And a hummingbird came within close range of our camera as it enjoyed the nectar of a zinnia.

For those still in the Assembly, please visit anytime to enjoy the dance of the Swallowtails, and whatever other surprise that may be just a wingbeat away.

### Around The Grounds

September 3 (Labor Day Weekend); Gill Jaquillard Wedding Reception

Facility Used:  
Auditorium  
26 Cottages rented

September 12-19; University of the South Family Week

50+ Cottages rented/  
loaned

September 30-October



1; Daher.Fish Wedding (Cottage #76)

Facilities to be used:  
Harton Hall (Friday)  
Winfield (Friday, Saturday)  
Auditorium (Saturday)  
17 cottages rented

October 7; Leadership Nashville

Facility to be used:  
Harton Hall  
Warren Chapel

October 15; Fletcher. Russell Wedding

Facilities to be used:  
Warren Chapel  
8 Cottages rented

