



MONTEAGLE SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

· A CHAUTAUQUA EST. 1882 ·

PO Box 307
Monteagle, TN
931-924-2286

Volume 25, Issue 10
November 2024

From Our Board President

Thanksgiving. One word with different meanings to different people. While we gather with family and friends during this wonderful season whether that be on our beloved mountain or elsewhere, I invite you to consider the following definition of Thanksgiving: *“the expression of gratitude, especially to God.”*

As I prepare to travel to the Assembly in the upcoming weeks with my trusty canine co-pilot, Peyton (he only charges a hamburger with no pickles as compensation), I look forward to using my drive time to remember how grateful I am for my life, my continued good health, for those who support me, the lessons I have learned this year, and for the opportunity to serve you all as president of the Board of Trustees.

It seems fitting during this time of year to highlight our amazing Outreach Committee, chaired by Mary Balfour Dunlap. This diligent and committed group focuses on life beyond the grounds and how we can best support our neighbors—both financially and physically—through God’s grace and dignity. The opportunities offered through this committee truly reflect the core values and mission of the Assembly and are available to all of us, from Hummingbirds on up. I encourage each of you to thought-



fully consider how you can meaningfully support this committee’s work and reflect on the gratitude you have for your own life and those in it!

One of my favorite parts of The Book of Common Prayer is the Section entitled “Prayers and Thanksgivings.” In closing, I am sharing with you the General Thanksgiving prayer, and I look forward to fun and fellowship with you all!

“Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of your whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

(continued on page 2)

It’s almost Thanksgiving. Don’t forget the potluck and fundraiser.. see page 4 and put a reminder on your phone.

This year’s Potluck will be Fri., Nov. 29, at noon in the Dining Hall. Bring a dish and serving piece. Drinks, cups, and utensils will be provided. As always, delicious food and scrumptious desserts will be aplenty. Hope to see you there.

AND Have you heard the rumor? The Corner Market will be back on the grounds this summer! see page 2 for the scoop!



www.mssa1882.org

From the President

(continued from page 1)

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying,

through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.”

See you on the Mountain!
Hays Haney
President, Board of Trustees

Corner Market's Back

Dear friends and MSSA family,

The rumors are true! It is with great pleasure and excitement that I can announce that the Corner Market will be back at Harton Hall for summer 2025! The Dining Hall was always meant to be a gathering place, and for 17 summers, we were part of that tradition. The truth is, we've all missed the MSSA employees, the kids, the dogs, the farmers, even the SYSCO drivers—but mostly we've missed you, your families and your friends.

So, we got together and hatched a plan. This summer, Deanna Caldwell, who worked by my side for eight years and helped MSSA and many of you with all kinds of special occasions during the summer and off-season, will be managing Harton Hall day-to-day, and will also handle take-out orders and “non-official” catering; and Mac will be lending a helping hand. I will be

there a lot, especially during the busiest weeks of the season, but this new arrangement puts Deanna in charge of the kitchen, and that means I will also be able to carve out some time for painting, writing, pool time, and possibly even pickle ball, along with planning the Culinary Guild, cooking classes, special dinners and more fun events! That's right, the Culinary Guild returns, and we already have some great plans on the books, and much more still in the works—stay tuned for more information.

The herb garden also needs some serious attention, and I'll be looking for volunteers to weed, water and plant—before, during and after the season. I welcome any of your ideas or suggestions of how to continue to make Harton Hall the wonderful gathering place that is the heart of MSSA. In the meantime, Deanna already knows your favorite dishes, and we are committed to returning to a double-sided buffet

QUICK BITES

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.

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.

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

with home cooking, daily tomato pie, a salad bar, and fresh chocolate chip cookies. In January, we will start looking for employees.

See you next summer!
Fondly,
Emily Frith

ARC PROJECT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Planning a renovation project? The Architectural Review Committee will accept projects for review and recommendation to the Board of Trustees for approval four times per year. Questions about possible projects, the process, and necessary requirements should be referred to the Executive Director. Projects submitted by the following dates will be reviewed and presented at the board meeting following the submission.

January 15 February 28 June 10 July 31 September 30

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 Executive Director first.

In Our Prayers

Tom Campbell III, longtime Assembly family member, died on October 25, 2024. Tom was born on May 19, 1961, and grew up in Atlanta, son of past Assembly members Dot and Tom Campbell Jr. and brother to Assembly members Gray Campbell and Margaret Rixham.

Tom Attended Vanderbilt University and had several jobs in the securities industry in New York and Atlanta. He is also survived by two sons: Nick Campbell and Tom Campbell IV and many cousins. A memorial service has yet to be planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to MSSA's Campbell Twilight Prayers fund.

Frances Adams Tipton, mother of Assembly member Frannie Smith, died on September 30, 2024, at the age of 95. She was born in Humboldt, Tennessee, on December 7, 1928., America in Tennessee, She is survived by her daughter, Frances Tipton Smith (Larry) of Jackson, Tennessee, and their children Katherine Smith Arney (Drew) and Virginia Smith Wilkerson (Michael), her daughter Virginia Tipton Walker (Will) of Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, and their children son-in-law, Stephen Edward Horn of Nashville, and his children. Memorials may be sent to First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, 4815 Franklin Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37220, Preston Taylor Ministries, P.O. Box 90442, Nashville, Tennessee 37209, or the charity of your choice.

For the full obituary, please go to: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/legacymembers/frances-jarrell-tipton-obituary?id=56448936>

Amelia Spickard Watson, sister and sister-in-law of Assembly members Pat Wildman and Sue Spickard, respectively, and loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and aunt, was born on May 25, 1935, in Nashville, Tennessee, and died October 25, 2024, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elizabeth Creighton Spickard and William Anderson Spickard; her brother, William Anderson Spickard, Jr.; her husband, Robert Preston Watson; and their son, David Dudley Watson. She is survived by her children, Robert Preston Watson Jr. (Lisa Calamusa) of Shelby, AL, Laura Amelia Watson Davenport of Victor, ID, and Rebecca Louise Watson (Betsy Carlin) of Jackson, WY; four grandchildren, a great granddaughter, and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. Memorial gifts may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Nashville (4815 Franklin Rd., Nashville, TN, 37220-1121) or to the Elizabeth Spickard Schumann Fund at the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly Endowment (PO Box 307, Monteagle, TN 37356), or to United for Literacy (PO Box1237, Monteagle, TN 37356), creating a library fund for children of Grundy, Marion, and Franklin counties who attend the Monteagle Elementary School.

For the full obituary, please go to: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/atlanta/name/amelia-watson-obituary?id=56742382>

Thomas Martin "Marty" Carr, Jr. of Oxford, MS, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Monday, November 11, 2024, after a short but brave battle with neuromuscular disease. Marty was born in Memphis, TN, on December 21, 1947, to Thomas Martin Carr, Sr. and



Joan O'Hearne Carr. Marty practiced medicine for 44 years, board-certified in both Emergency Medicine and Internal Medicine. He spent the last 32 years of his career working in the Methodist Hospital System. Marty retired in 2018 after serving the Methodist Hospital System as Medical Director of the Emergency Medicine Department.

Marty was preceded in death by his parents. He will always be remembered affectionately by his wife Candice; his sons Thomas Martin Carr III (Trey) and his wife Anne of Lookout Mountain, TN; Christopher and his wife Tiffany of Dallas, TX; Patrick and his wife Shellie of Oxford, MS; grandchildren Julia, Caroline, Francie, Catherine, Mary Alex, Margaret, Thomas IV, and Bailey; and his three sisters Mary Jeanne Bouton (Joe) of Athens, GA, Gail Overby (David) of Ridgeland, MS, and Norma Ruff (Phil) of Tupelo, MS.

A memorial service will be held in the future with interment in the Monteagle Assembly Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Methodist Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center in Memphis, the University of Mississippi School of Medicine Student Benevolence Fund, or a charity of your choice. Marty would also want you to enjoy a Cuban cigar and go fishing with a friend.

For the full obituary, please go to: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/legacymembers/thomas-carr-obituary?>

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

News from the Outreach

Committee:

Don't Forget the Thanksgiving Fundraiser

As we enter the holiday season it's important to remind ourselves just how fortunate we are and what a blessing it is to share with others. Just a reminder that during the annual potluck the day after Thanksgiving in the Dining Hall, we will be collecting monetary donations in support of the Morton Memorial Food Pantry. Bring your checkbook to support this wonderful and much-needed program. Then enjoy leftovers and lively conversation!



Morton Fellowship Hall ready for Saturday food distribution to 278+ families.

Mary Balfour Dunlap,
Chair, Outreach Committee

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!



Monteagle Sunday School Assembly
P.O. Box 307
Monteagle, TN 37356
www.mssa1882.org

Office 931-924-2286
Fax 931-924-2306

Executive Director – Steve Williams
steve.williams@mssa1882.org
President – Hays Haney
hth_72@yahoo.com
Platform Superintendent – Susan Acker,
susan.acker@mssa1882.org
Director of Housing & Guest Services –
Rhonda Atkins, rhonda.atkins@mssa1882.org
Office Manager – Julia Robinson
julia.robinson@mssa1882.org
Facility Superintendent – Rick Duncan
rick.duncan@mssa1882.org

LEASEHOLDS AVAILABLE



#23 Edgeworth Inn
\$1,923,000

To arrange a tour or for
more information contact:
Steve Williams,
Executive Director
Steve.williams@mssa1882.org
(931) 924-2286

Updates from the Office and the Grounds

The Assembly remains very active much of the fall with weddings, workshops, and the Sewanee weekends. I've also enjoyed seeing and visiting with our many members, their families and guests who have had the good fortune to be here. Please do not hesitate to call the office with any concerns or needs.

Staff, Grounds Crew and Security:

We are fully staffed in the office and the grounds crew remains busy with property improvements . . . in addition to their usual heavy fall schedule. Also, as noted in last month's issue, please welcome Marty Sampley to the security team. Additional offseason shifts have been added to the customary nightly security rounds.



Trees:

The grounds crew has been busy identifying and removing dangerous or dead trees on Assembly property, both inside the gates and on the trails. Please let the office know if you have concerns about any



trees. We welcome your feedback. Of note, several trees (plus one cottage, Shady Dell and two vehicles) were impacted during recent fall storms. Fortunately, we suffered no major damage, and there have been no injuries.

Trails: East trail renovations and additions have begun including new bridges and a new trail segment that runs between the ash tree stumps and the campground. More to come soon including campground upgrades.

Sewer Rehab Update:

The Town of Monteagle's 3rd party engineering firm has completed the majority of the work required on property. They have a few clean up items and road repairs to finalize over the next months, but so far, they are ahead of schedule and should be off the grounds well in advance of next summer.

Water Shutoff/Trash:

It's close to time to act for those who plan to shut off their water supply for the winter. Brief reminder that the Monteagle Utility District does not provide the Assembly Leaseholds forgiveness for high water bills due to leaks or broken lines. Lastly, don't forget to let the office know if you want your trash pickup stopped.

Steve Williams
Executive Director

Holiday Trash Schedule

No garbage pick up on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28.
Pick up will be the following Monday.

Congratulations!

Gilbert Gordon (husband of Ginny Farris; Overall Cottage) was recently awarded the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award at The Webb School in Bell Buckle. Two years ago, he published "Ramblings on Rock Springs Road," a memoir about the heroes in his life, including a number of teachers from Webb.

The Monteagle 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 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.