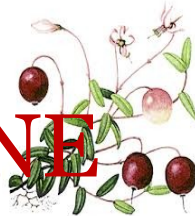


the
CRANberry VINE



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

We never dreamed it could happen to us. Oh, yes, there had been flooding before and some were quite devastating, but no one even considered the catastrophic effects of Helene on western North Carolina. Loss of power, loss of water, loss of trees, houses and roads and bridges and worst all, the tragic loss of life. It was a storm we never expected nor will we ever forget.

On the positive side of a negative event, we saw and are still seeing the heroic efforts of neighbors and people and organizations from afar. These tragic events bring out the worst and best of people and in this situation, we have seen far more of the best. A huge thanks for all who have given time, money and untiring effort to help the hurting.

We may never see what has been referred to as a perfect storm in WNC again. Perfect in that all the "right" weather elements came together at the right (or wrong) time to create such an unexpected catastrophe. But from a biblical perspective, another storm is brewing. Not a weather event, but a culmination of the Great Controversy.

"Christians should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise, and this preparation they should make by diligently studying the word of God and striving to conform their lives to its pre-

Continued on page 4



Those who receive
The CRANberry Vine by email,
receive it in color. Do you?

EVENTS TO COME —

December 3—

Christmas Banquet at Mt Pisgah Academy gym, 1:00 pm, 75 Academy Dr, Candler, NC

March 27—

Fellowship Meal at Hendersonville Seventh-day Adventist Church



**You are Invited
to Contribute**

This is your newsletter for you to enjoy reading and being a part of.

Whenever you come across something that is particularly inspirational to you, humorous or interesting, please think of your **CRANberry Vine** newsletter. This might be a short story, poem or just a one-liner. Share it. If you liked it, the rest of us would probably like it also.

Your contributions can be sent to the editor, Sharryn Mahorney by text, email or snail mail—whichever is most convenient for you. These will be inserted as appropriate and we have room.

A WALK AT NOSOCA

I walked along the lake in the early morning wet grass,
Saw the cloud of mist rising from waters smooth as glass.
The Great Blue Heron stood like a statue on a log
As the Great White Egret flew and quickly gobbled up a frog.

I love to see God’s beauty all around
And see His handiwork in sight and in sound.
The peace and tranquility are something hard to tell,
As I gazed upon the lake, I had time to think a spell.

The beauty of God’s nature here
Surely fills my heart with cheer,
It makes me long for my heavenly home
Where we will no longer from loved ones have to roam.

There God will tell us stories of when Creation began
And then tell us where we fit into His Master Plan.
And I hope the holy angels that protected us day and night
Will continue their companionship as to other worlds we take
our flight!
—from God through Joy Thomas

Christmas Banquet at Mount Pisgah Academy Gymnasium

Our retirees are being invited to a Christmas banquet by Mount Pisgah Academy, Thursday, December 3 at 1:00. This will be in the gymnasium. A shuttle will be available from the Mt Pisgah Academy cafeteria parking lot, if needed.

Besides a delightful meal, we will enjoy a mini concert by the Academy. Their choir and symphony are experiencing an exciting growth in the last couple years, and thus have several needs for the choir and the symphony. The symphony is also planning a tour to London this Spring and could use extra funding. There is a need for more instruments and music stands as well. Their annual Christmas Concert is planned for Friday night, December 13 and donations that reach the various tiers will be listed on the back of the program that night as supporters.

Bring a healthy appetite and a healthy donation to encourage the students! You will soon receive a card in the mail from Mt Pisgah Academy with your invitation and how to respond with your RSVP.



**Memories from our
annual September Re-
treat at Nosoca Pines
Ranch**



**Elder Don
MacLafferty
blessed us
with his
teachings**



Corn hole Tournament Winners:

Doubles: Barry Mahorney, Glen Hughes

Singles: Barry Mahorney



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WHAT NOT TO LOSE

Don't lose courage;
spirit brave

Carry with you to the
grave.

Don't lose time in vain
distress;

Work, not worry,
brings success.

Don't lose hope; who
lets her stray

Goes forlornly all the
way.

Don't lose patience,
come what will;

Patience oft times
outruns skill.

Don't lose gladness;
every hour

Blooms for you some
happy flower.

Though be foiled your
dearest plan,

Don't lose faith in
God and man.

—Selected, *Review and
Herald*, July 23, 1895

cepts. The tremendous issues of eternity demand of us something besides an imaginary religion, a religion of words and forms, where truth is kept in the outer court. God calls for a revival and a reformation." Prophets and Kings, p. 626

Because WNC had never seen such a disastrous storm, we made only minimal preparations. But we have been given more than adequate warning concerning the final conflict. Not only should we be prepared by the instruction given above by Ellen White, but we have a heaven-sent responsibility to warn those with whom we come in contact.

We mourn the loss of lives and property, but we rejoice in the hope, the blessed hope of Jesus' return. The storms will be over. Are you, am I prepared?

Barry Mahorney

PROMISE TO PONDER

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9 NKJV

**Carolina Retirees
Association Northwest**

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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Sharryn Mahorney, editor



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

