

# the CRANberry VINE



*The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, .... and should destroy those who destroy the earth. Rev. 11:18*

Dear friends,

I am excited about the upcoming retreat and pray that the Lord will help us get there this year. I am also aware of the many challenges we face as individuals, as a community and as a church. As I am preparing for the retreat, I read an alarming report from the United Nations about the state of our earth.

The climate change in our earth, the only place that we have ever lived, is worse than what was believed earlier. The report says that "there is no going back" and "no room for wishful thinking". The scientist's report says it is "unequivocal" that humans have warmed the skies, waters, and lands, and that "widespread and rapid changes" have already occurred in every inhabited region across the globe. Many of these changes are irreversible within our lifetimes. They are the cause of worsening deadly weather events, flooding, fires, drought, and many other disasters around the world.

Scientists and politicians are looking for ways to put a stop to the coming disaster as a result of their own actions. They concluded that the recent changes in climate are widespread, rapid, and intensifying, and the worst our beloved earth has ever seen!!

It is sad what humans have done to the earth. When it came from the hands of the creator it was labeled as very good. Another example of how Satan has deformed and destroyed God's creation. Sin is ugly and destructive. Were it not for what Jesus did on the cross, and for sustaining us every day, we could be destroyed along with the earth when Jesus returns to pay "each one according to their deeds." "For He will come to destroy those who destroy the earth." We will suffer the consequences of what has happened to our earth, but we know that our only salvation is Jesus. May we be found worthy of being citizens of the New Earth. This will be a reunion worth striving for.

*Sam Leonor, Sr.*

President



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

## REMINDER

**Hurry! You can still send in your Application to attend the Fall Retreat. Please mail it to:**

Carol Hayes  
103 Oakwood Place,  
Apt 1,  
Hendersonville NC  
28792

If you need an application, call Peggy at 828-845-5995.

## Retreat Plans and Information

Plans have been made for our Fall Retreat and it may be beneficial for you to have more details in advance.

- PA system volunteers are needed. If you have experience on a sound board and are willing to help at the retreat, please contact Sam Leonor at 321-356-1704.
- The Wednesday evening banquet theme is “Our Mission is Heaven” with our international friends and believers. If you have lived or worked in another country and have native dress, please plan to wear it to the banquet.
- Recreation – It is time to start preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual cornhole tournament. This year a singles tournament will be added in addition to a doubles tournament. Is there anyone who can unseat last year’s winners, Ben and Carol Ringer? There will also be a Bocce tournament. It is fun and anyone can play this game. Winners for cornhole and bocce will be presented with medals at the banquet.
- Bring jigsaw puzzles or your favorite table games to enjoy with friends.

Even though our plans are complete, these are uncertain times and changes might occur. If something does change, you will be notified as quickly as possible by email or phone.

### Welcome!

We are excited to introduce new CRAN members and look forward to getting better acquainted during our Fall Retreat at Nosoca Pines Ranch.

- \* Phyllis Beaven
- \* Don & Rolene Hanson
- \* Jerry & Connie Hayward
- \* Lynn & Erica Johnson
- \* Jerry Mobley
- \* Esther Rodriguez
- \* Richard Schell
- \* Raymond & Patti Swensen
- \* Roger & Marcia Van Arsdell
- \* Don & Susan Wetmore



### REMEMBERING

Dr. Alfred Hanscom, 95, passed away on July 1, 2021. He was a lifelong dedicated member of the SDA church, a prolific reader and adventurous traveler who practiced medicine for nearly 50 years. He enjoyed attending CRAN’s Fall Retreats and will be missed.

Do not allow the perplexities and worries of everyday life to fret your mind and cloud your brow. If you do, you will always have something to vex and annoy. Life is what we make it, and we shall find what we look for. If we look for sadness and trouble, . . . we shall find plenty of it to engross our thoughts and our conversation. But if we look on the bright side of things, we shall find enough to make us cheerful and happy.

— *The Adventist Home*, p. 430

# WHAT 'S NEXT?

## Carolina Retirees' Fall Retreat

September 20-23 — Nosoca Pines Ranch



Randy Tryon, MD  
*Gifted Speaker & Story Teller*



Cris Cazarine Dutra  
*Director of Health Ministries*

- Fellowship
- Exciting Events
- Special Speakers.

**A retreat for those 55 years and older**

Simply go to: <https://www.cransda.org/>

*All the information you'll need is on the form . . .*

### September 20-23 - Fall Retreat at Nosoca Pines Ranch

See page 2 for more information. And don't forget to register!

### December - Christmas Lunch at Fletcher Academy

Date to be announced.

### CRAN BOARD MEMBERS

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<https://www.cransda.org>

Faith is not about everything turning out OK; faith is about being OK no matter how things turn out.





## Nothing Can Separate Us From God's Love

"No power in the sky above or in the earth below--indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39). Not even our own issues can separate us from God's love. It is as constant and dependable as the rising and setting of the sun each day. God's love does not falter, and it will never end.

Our new obsession must be receiving and returning His love. Mary's full-time pursuit was placing herself wherever Jesus was. She absorbed His words and cherished His presence. When she realized how deeply Jesus loved and accepted her, she prioritized returning the same love and gratitude in every way she could think of. What would life be like if our major concern was finding new ways to show God that we love Him? What if instead of stressing over the way things could go wrong, we began each morning thanking God for the opportunity to love Him?

From: *Pursued* p. 78 by Lola Moore Johnston

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## He must become greater; I must become less." John 3:30

Gary Thomas, in his book *Authentic Faith*, describes a friend of his named Mike. He met Mike when he went to college. Mike was a leader among students. He had everything: a contagious personality, athletic ability, good looks, and natural appeal. And everybody wanted to be around Mike. Everybody wanted to be Mike.

But a few years after college, Mike suffered a brain hemorrhage, and, as a result, he lost everything: his handsome appearance was gone, his voice was slurred, he couldn't teach anymore. Everything that others admired about Mike was now taken from him.

His treatment required months of grueling therapy, but eventually he was able to function again. The devastating effect on his body was paralleled by an equally powerful change in his spirit. He still attracted followers, but he was no longer focused on himself. He was focused on God.

Gary Thomas says, "In college, when I was around Mike, I wanted to be like Mike. Now, after spending time with Mike, I want to be more like Jesus."

Many people get discouraged by the physical changes they experience as they grow older. **But instead of letting that get you down, let it motivate you to point more people to Jesus!**

From: Senior Living Ministries Daily Living Devotional 2021

### Carolina Retirees Association Northwest

693 N Rugby Road  
Hendersonville, NC 28791

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

Peggy Peterson, editor

<https://www.cransda.org>



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

