

PHI BETA LAMBDA IN BUSINESS

Officers and sponsors of WCC's Phi Beta Lambda Club journeyed to UNC-G at Greensboro November 7, to participate in a "Workshop in Leadership" presented by the State Phi Beta Lambda organization. Those attending included officers Naomi Smith, President; Frank Perez, Vice-President; Charlene Beshears, Secretary; and Sheree Hamby, Treasurer; and sponsors, Mr. Tom Toliver and Mrs. Jean Miles, instructors in the Business and Commercial Division at Wilkes Community College.

Mrs. Jean Miles and Mr. Tom Toliver joined the club as sponsors this past fall and have been amazed at the sudden and rapid success of the club. From a very small core of members has grown a club 70 strong, membership, by the way, which exceeds that of the Phi Beta Lambda

Club at ASU and several other four-year colleges and universities in North Carolina as well as all of the community colleges and technical institutes in this state. Mrs. Miles and Mr. Toliver attribute this growth to the enthusiasm and ability of the club's officers and to the variety of exciting events planned this year by the club.

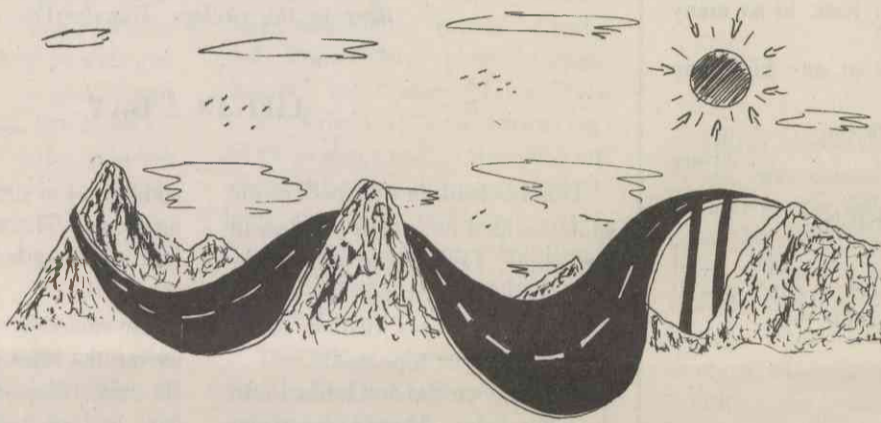
Among others on the drawing board, the Club has plans to hold social gatherings, go on a camping trip, enter a float in the Jaycee Christmas Parade, put on a comedic version of Don Juan, and establish a social and service calendar for the Club. The first social event this year is a party for Club members and guests at Mr. Toliver's house, featuring barbecued chicken and all the trimmings.

The purpose of the Phi Beta Lambda organization is to sponsor and promote business-related activities in business education and to develop cooperation and leadership skill among students. The Club, in addition to engaging in various social activities, also is deeply involved in service functions. The National Phi Beta Lambda organization has pledged one million dollars to the March of Dimes. Local clubs will support this pledge with funds earned from a variety of fund-raising events.

The response and work by each of the Wilkes club members and officers has been outstanding. According to Mr. Toliver, "I am deriving immense satisfaction from my work with the Club. We have a group of young people who have good ideas and who know how to make them

work. I couldn't ask for a more capable and enthusiastic group. We're going to do a lot this year and we are all looking forward to it."

Mrs. Miles feels one of the strongest attractions of the club is the fact that college students enjoy their years of education more if they are involved in a productive organization capable of meeting their need to be a part of something. As explained by Mrs. Miles, "Our business students come from high schools where they were very active in school activities and they are continuing to be involved here at WCC. They, apparently, feel that an important part of their education is belonging and serving their community. We hope, during the coming year, to remain a strong and active club."



A TRIP ALONG THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

In the four years this writer has lived in Wilkes County, it remains a constant surprise to realize how many people, born and raised amidst such splendor, have never taken the opportunity to inspect and mull over the historical sights offered along the Blue Ridge Parkway. If history isn't of interest, surely the breathtaking scenery should have lured even the most avid of T.V. watchers to view the hazy blue mountains, the fantastic cascades and waterfalls, and such glimpses of wildlife as the time of day and flow of traffic allow, maybe a groundhog along the side of the road, a snake out sunning itself, or maybe a deer grazing in the fields. I have never seen a skunk, although the odor permeates the air regularly.

After working in an elementary school for a year, I realized that many of the children don't even know where the Parkway is located, much less had the opportunity to ramble around the old homesteads, watch local crafts being demonstrated, or hike along specially cleared trails. This summer my family and I went on a photography trip which covered 200 miles along what I feel is the most beautiful and awe-inspiring scenic route in the world, so that children might have the opportunity

to see, if only by pictures, just how beautiful the country-side is right where they live.

We started at Mabry Mill, which is located in Virginia, where we watched corn being ground, hides being tanned, and the making of molasses. The ringing of the blacksmith's hammer kept time with the music of the banjo pickers which the cloggers were dancing to. Meandering along the crest of the mountains, we came to the tiny homestead of Olean Puckett. "Aunt Olean," as she was called, travelled miles and miles around the locality welcoming into the world all the new young'uns, yet of the twenty-four children she herself gave birth to, none lived past infancy.

Travelling south a few more miles, we came to the homestead of Martin and Caroline Brinegar. Here we saw various crafts and a working demonstration of the old four-poster weaving loom that many households used a hundred years ago. The Jesse Brown cabin is another example of the hardships the people of last century endured. Eleven children were raised in this house, no bigger than most modern day bedrooms, and strangers were always welcome.

Further along this twisting ribbon of asphalt is the estate of Moses H. Cone. The estate covers about 33,000 acres, the house is a fine example of the architecture of the period, and a short ride on the buckboard reveals a well-kept family cemetery which most people of wealth preferred. Crafts are also displayed here, and cloth of a finer quality than is made on the Brinegar loom is made here. On and on, overlook after overlook the history and scenery overpower even the most speculative of observers.

Short walks along well-cleared trails reveals myriad of wild flowers, mushrooms in colors from purest white through yellows and purples to the deepest of reds, and when the viewer least expects it, cascades and waterfalls rush over ledges of sheer rocks.

The photographs I made have been received with fantastic enthusiasm by several classes of elementary children.

-Eileen Lowe



MU ALPHA THETA

The Math Club started off on a strong foot with more than thirty members. Some of the members, however, fell by the wayside at the mention of "work"; but president, John Norman was not easily discouraged. With backing by some of his more active members, he recruited ten additional members, who had not attended the first meeting, they said, due to the clashing school class schedule.

The club, Mu Alpha Theta, is looking forward to a good year with an increasing membership. The members are working hard to get the funds necessary to make them eligible for the state and national associations.

Last year the club participated in several events, including a talent show, the Christmas parade, the Pitch-in, and other activities. During the last quarter, they were treated to a luncheon at the Holiday Inn and a club picnic at W. Kerr Scott Dam. Club sponsor, Jo Hendrix, says she has high hopes for this year's Mu Alpha Theta.



BICENTENNIAL

