

## W.C.C. Singles Ping-Pong Tournament

On Thursday September 13th, the annual Singles Ping-Pong Tournament got underway. After the elimination of many contestants, the tournament grew with excitement.

In the first round, Bradley Stokes beat Bill McClean (21, 13), (21, 16). In the second round action Barry Triplett defeated Bradon Stokes (21, 16), (21, 14). In the third round Ronnie Walsh defeated Ed Hamous (21, 18) to (21, 19) and advanced to the championship match to play Bradley Stokes for the trophy. The match was filled with excitement as it extended into 3 games with Bradley, the singles tournament winner for the second year in a row. The scores of this game was Bradley over Ronnie (21, 15), Ronnie over Bradley (21, 18) and the final match Bradley over Ronnie (21, 12)

by: Barry Triplett

## Fontana Village To Host 40th Reunion of Fontana Dam Construction Workers

FONTANA DAM, N.C.-Construction workers and employees of the Tennessee Valley Authority during the building of Fontana Dam will convene at Fontana Village Resort in November for the 40th anniversary of the completion of the massive, 480 foot structure.

The first reunion of its type since the completion of the dam in 1945, the workers will gather November 6-8 at the Village that once was home to some 5,000 men and women involved in the wartime project.

"Many of the same buildings and cottages that housed the workers on the dam are still being used here at Fontana," said John Watts, who organized the reunion and is Director of Marketing for Fontana Village. "We feel it will be a memorable event for all who labored on the project and we're looking for a great response."

Watts said Fontana has been working for more than a year on the organization of this reunion. A

package rate of \$75 per person (tax included) will give former workers two nights and three days at the resort. This includes all meals, with dinner in the Cafeteria November 6, breakfast and lunch in the Cafeteria November 7, a special banquet dinner on November 7, featuring George Kimmons as guest speaker, and breakfast on departure November 8th. Mr. Kimmons was Director of Construction on the Fontana project.

In addition, a film documentary of the construction will be shown, tours of the Dam will be held, and free use of mini and Par-3 golf will be offered.

"This is our way of commemorating the brave workers who fought the wilderness in building this Dam," Watts said. "To be built in the 40's Fontana Dam is an architectural marvel."

Indeed it is doubtful if any concrete dam as large as Fontana was ever constructed in so short a

time. Three years after work began in 1942, its first generator was contributing 67,500 kw of power for national defense. A second generator started a few weeks later. Finally a third 67,500 kw generator was installed, and Fontana reached an output capacity of 75,000 kw per hour, making it one of the main sources of power for Western North Carolina and East Tennessee.

On December 17, 1941, Congress authorized construction of the Dam. Construction actually began on January 2, 1942 on what was then the fourth highest and largest concrete dam in the world. The mixing plant contained five mixers of four cubic yards capacity each, and the conveyor lines stretched for over two miles. On February 26, 1943, the first concrete was placed, and in July 1944 a concrete placing record was made when 10,755 cubic yards were poured and placed in 24 hours. One eight-hour shift placed 3,828 cubic yards with an hourly

average of 479 cubic yards per hour. On April 3, 1944, the last concrete form was filled, and the huge spillways were placed. On November 7, 1944 the dam was "closed." Finally, on January 18, 1945, the number one unit was placed in commercial operation and on March 21, 1945, unit number two went to full power.

Fontana Dam is located on Little Tennessee River in North Carolina's Swain and Graham counties. It is 1/2 mile upstream from the head of Cheoah Lake; 20 air miles west of Bryson City, North Carolina; and 6 and 3/4 miles east of the North Carolina-Tennessee line.

Watts added that names of former workers and their addresses are still being sought. For further information about the reunion, contact Fontana Village at (704) 498-2211 ext. 257, or toll free 1-800-438-808, outside of North Carolina and east of the Mississippi.

## Army's Newest Incentive Is Its College Fund

Charlotte, N.C. -- A recent increase in the Army College Fund (ACF) has direct application to college students by offering them a way to accrue money to meet the costs of completing their higher education.

The monetary return a two-year college graduate gets for devoting just two years to army service can result in direct payments of \$837.50 per month for 24 academic months; a four-year enlistment nets \$733.33 monthly for 36 academic months.

The United States Army is actively seeking the finest young men and women for active military service and recognizes the value of having soldiers who have achieved a two-year degree.

To acquaint students with the benefits and opportunities available through army enlistment an Army College Recruiting Team is visiting college campuses. The team was at Wilkes Community College on Monday, Nov. 5, to interview students beginning at 9 a.m.

The team is headed by Captain Wayne Davies, a 1979 graduate of Western Carolina University. Initially an enlisted service-member, Captain Davies joined the R.O.T.C. and was the distinguished military graduate of

his class. An army aviator, he has served at Fort Bragg, Fort Rucker and in Korea.

According to Davies, students will have an opportunity to gain a deeper insight into Army life through the use of computerized equipment, including a video display and information processing system.

"We will show two to three minute video segments depicting army training and benefits, giving an accurate picture of what the Army is really like," Davies said.

"Finding the right job for the right person reduces any possible job-related frustrations and disillusionments," Davies said. "We will provide individualized printouts, summarizing financial benefits," he added.

Two-year college graduates are offered an advanced promotion when they enlist in the Army, meaning entry at a higher grade level--and more pay. The monthly pay for a single person is \$695; \$1077, if married.

"From their monthly pay, a voluntary contribution to the Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP) of up to \$100 per month begins their educational nest-egg," Daves said.

Under the VEAP the soldier's voluntary contribution is matched by the government on a two-for-one basis. To the maximum contribution of \$2400 which is matched by the government's \$4800, the Army will add the new incentive of \$12,900 which makes it possible for a soldier during a two-year enlistment to accrue

\$20,100 for college.

A four-year enlistment reaches \$26,400 by the soldier contributing a maximum of \$75 monthly for 36 months, matched on a two-for-one basis and augmented by the Army's new incentive of \$18,300.

"This is an exceptionally good return on the soldier's basic investment," Davies said. "And the ACF benefits can be used for any educational program which is approved by the Veteran's Administration," he added.

To participate in the ACF, one must score above 50 on the Armed Forces Qualification Test, be enlisting for the first time and choose one of a number of selected Military Occupation Specialties (MOS). Many of these MOS offer cash bonuses, usually paid upon successful completion of training. The amounts vary, dependent upon the specific MOS and the length of enlistment, from \$1,500 to \$8,000.

"We are not encouraging students to drop out of college," Davies said. "We are encouraging them to think about enlisting through the Army's Delayed Entry Program which allows them to enlist now, but not leave for duty until after they graduate. This assures them that they will get the training of their choice and gives them up to a year before they report for training," Davies said.

"Students who talk with us and get their individualized printout are under no obligation to enlist," Davies concluded.

## Society for the Historical Preservation of the 26th North Carolina Troops, Inc.

The Society for the Historical Preservation of the 26th North Carolina Troops, Inc., is a statewide non-profit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to the continued research into the history of this most famous regiment, which honorably served in the Army of Northern Virginia during the War between the States. The Society is also engaged in the preservation of property relating to that era of our history. Recently, the Society successfully pressed for funds from the NC General Assembly to restore the North Carolina monument at Gettysburg.

To accomplish the goal of fostering public understanding of the role of the regiment during the war, the Society sponsors a re-enactment unit that participates in living history demonstrations, battle re-enactment and encampments at national, state and local parks. The fully uniformed members of this re-activated unit strive to provide an authentic impression for the public

in regards to the everyday life of the common soldier during the Civil War.

The original regiment was composed of 10 companies of 100 men each. Men from Ashe, Wilkes, Caldwell, Union, Anson, Moore, Chatham and Wake counties rallied to the call of their State and fought in many severe battles and campaigns.

The Society for the Historical Preservation of the 26th NC Troops currently has re-enactment units representing Companies F & I. Efforts are now underway to establish re-activated units in each of the above counties which originally provided troops to the regiment. Requirements for joining the Society as a uniformed member can be obtained from the local representative provided below. All uniforms and equipment needed can be obtained through unit sources and are tax deductible.

We encourage persons in Wilkes County and the surrounding area who are sincerely interested in this period of our history to join the ranks of Company C, which was formed locally. Enjoy a unique way to experience life in the 1860's. It's part of your heritage.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cpl. Dale Sherrill  
Rt. 3, Box 241D  
Taylorsville, N.C. 28681  
Home: (704) 632-5739

### X: UNKNOWN QUANTITY

Wilhelm Roentgen is remembered because he discovered rays of something that could penetrate metal as well as human flesh and leave a record of that penetration upon a photographic plate. It was valuable, therefore, for both medicinal and commercial purposes.

But what does one call such amazing rays?

When Roentgen reported his

discovery to the Physicomical Society of Wurzburg in Nov. 1895, reporters asked him if the rays were composed of light or electricity. Roentgen replied that the rays were neither.

"Then, how do you explain it?" asked one.

"I don't know," replied Roentgen, and he concluded, "X stands for the unknown, the invisible. So I... call it the X ray."

### REMEMBER!

"How come you know so much stuff?" said the student to the professor.

"I've asked questions all my life," replied the professor.

"So have I," said the student, "and I still don't know anything."

"Make an effort, then," said the professor, "to remember the answers."

### Politics, 1984

• Politics is the art of saying sweet somethings.

• Vote for me. I need a job.

• This government of the people cannot be for those people who neglect to vote.

• Run for office. Get to your desk on time!

• The fault is not in our stars - but in our politicians.

• In a planned society, the government answers the questions of the people. In a free society, the people question the answers of the government.

• Be an informed citizen. Vote no on propositions.

• The New Deal has been dealt... The Old Deal has been dealt... The Square Deal has been dealt... The Fair Deal has been dealt... The

Bare Deal has been dealt... The Raw Deal has been dealt... Even No Deal has been dealt... Oh where, oh where is the Honest Deal

• Bad politicians are elected by good people who don't bother to vote.

• Vote for Khomeini! He kept us from giving more foreign aid to Iran.

• Said Plato: "The punishment of wise men who refuse to take part in affairs of government is to live under the government of unwise men."

• Any politician who can't strike oil within five minutes of a speech had better quit boring.

• If you would like to know more about your ancestors, run for political office and your opponents will tell you.