

A Letter from the Board of Trustees

At its spring meeting on April 19, the Board of Trustees of the Penland School of Crafts made a decision to seek new leadership for the school. Ken Botnick, who served as the school's director for four years, has accepted a new position as Associate Professor of Graphic Design at Washington University in St. Louis. The Board is grateful to Ken for his many contributions to the school and wishes him well in his future endeavors. A story on page 3 details some of what was accomplished during the time Ken spent at Penland.

Times of change are often disquieting and can generate many questions which don't have ready answers. What's needed is a firm hand on day-to-day business. For this, we have turned to a long-time friend, Donna Jean Dreyer, who will serve as Interim Director. Donna Jean retired in 1995 after nine years at Penland. Her responsibilities ranged from catalog editor to development director. She also had a long and varied career with the American Friends Service Committee which included seven interim administrative positions.

The board is currently forming a search committee: two of the committee's eight members will be chosen from outside the board. The first task of this committee is to make a timeline for the search and to define the school's expectations of the new director.

Meanwhile, Penland can look forward to another exciting and vibrant summer of craft classes. Programming is complete for fall and spring, and our excellent staff will keep glass in the furnaces, clay on the wheels, and food on the tables.

Joe Bova
Chair, Board of Trustees



Robin Dreyer

Blue Ridge Parkway, April 7, 1997.

PENLAND LINE

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The Penland Line is published twice a year to communicate thoughts about the programs, people, and philosophy of Penland and to keep in touch with several groups of people at once: craftspeople and friends living nearby, instructors, donors, and Penland Friends. We invite you to share your news, opinions, and/or photographs with us. And please let us know what you think of the Penland Line.

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Robin Dreyer

Students and staff members from the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild (Pittsburgh) getting to know students from Mitchell High School (Ledger). Manchester provides after-school and summer programs in clay, photography, sculpture, two-dimensional art, and computer technology. The Manchester visit, which took place this spring, was sponsored by The Grable Foundation. In the foreground is an installation of clay "stones" made by the students during a workshop with Paulus Berensohn.