



VETERANS OUTREACH — Four Gaston veterans and counselor Dean Jones, also a vet, are shown above as they make plans to reach more and more returning veterans. Their goal is to help these ex-servicemen find a better way of life through education. The workers are, left to right, Gary Greene, Sam Jamison, Larry Smith, and Jeff Mullinax. Seated at center is Jones, who is coordinating the program.

Veterans' Outreach Program Is Formed

Gaston College has joined 125 other colleges throughout the country in sponsoring a Veteran's Outreach Program. The program, which is a joint effort of the American Association of Junior Colleges and the American Legion, is already underway.

The purpose of Veteran's Outreach is to recruit returning veterans from all branches of military service and encourage them to enroll in educational institutions in order to create for themselves a better life. Counselor Dean Jones is coordinator of the Gaston program.

Assisting Jones are four Gaston students: Sam Jamison from the Technical Division, and Larry Smith, Jeff Mullinax, and Maynard Greene, all of the Academic Division.

The procedures of the program are threefold: first, the program workers secure the names of returning veterans and write them a personal letter; second, the workers follow up the letter with a telephone call to the veteran; the final step is to arrange a personal meeting, preferably on the Gaston campus, where the veteran will be given information concerning the various curricula at Gaston.

At the end of the first two weeks of operation, the workers had written 179 letters. While many of the veterans had changed addresses or could not be reached for various reasons, the workers succeeded in making 49 telephone contacts. These calls resulted in 28 personal appointments.

Thus far a number of veterans have committed themselves to return to college or to begin their college education. Jones pointed out that the program is not oriented toward any particular area of college work.

"We are not concerned with what approach to his education the veteran makes," Jones commented. "We want to aid all veterans in securing for themselves and for their families a better life. And we think that in acquiring a better education they will be better prepared to find that better life."

The four veterans who are now working in the Outreach program have a varied military background. Jamison and Smith are Army veterans, while Mullinax served in the Navy. Greene is an Air Force veteran, and Dean Jones is a veteran of

many years in the Marine Corps.

Before beginning work, the four students were given an eight-hour training program, which included conferences with Dean George McSwain, Horace Cline, dean of student personnel, Dr. Jimmie Babb, dean of the Vocational Division, and Bruce Trammell, Gaston College registrar. In addition, the workers became familiar with all facets of the college physical facilities and read and studied the college bulletin so that they could give accurate responses to questions from the veteran contacted.

Thus far the group has received a list of 500 names. All of these people will be contacted if they are still in the Gaston College area, and when the Outreach Program work is concluded, Dean Jones and the Veterans' Club will continue the efforts.

Jones, who pointed out that the workers are college employees and in no way connected with the Veteran's Administration, asks that any veteran in the area who desires additional information concerning the college contact him at Room C-101 at the College.

Adult Education Enrolls 13,072

In 93 classes conducted at 19 different locations during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, the Continuing Education Division of Gaston College enrolled more than 13,000 students. Of these, nearly 11,000 were served in Gaston County, and slightly over 2,000 were from Lincoln County.

Dr. Mike Latta, Dean of the Continuing Education Division, in releasing the information, pointed out that 477 students were enrolled in Adult Basic Education; 985 studied in the Learning Lab; and 9,318 took one or more classes in Avocational and Vocational classes in Gaston County.

In Lincoln County, there were 197 Adult Basic Education students, 229 Learning Lab students, and 1,866 enrolled in the Avocational and Vocational classes.

There were 289 different instructors for the classes in Continuing Education, and 19 of these were full-time staff members at Gaston College. The enrollment was the largest in the history of Gaston College.

Fall Journalism Class Is Planned

Plans have been completed for another Journalism Workshop for the Fall Quarter at Gaston College. As usual, the workshop will be held at the 11:00 hour in Room C-206. All students interested in learning the basics of newspaper writing are invited to join the group as soon as the Fall Quarter begins.

The workshop does not carry credit and no grades are given. Students who take part in the workshop are invited to work on the college paper as well, but this is not a requirement.

It should be noted too that students who do not enroll in the workshop are invited to work on the college paper. Williams noted that anyone interested in helping the GAS LIGHT is invited to contact him at any time during the remainder of the summer or in the fall.

'Go, Gaston Gals' Workshop Planned

A workshop directed toward opportunities for women in the Gaston area has been scheduled for 9:30 to 12:30 Tuesday morning, August 29, Mrs. Helen Bryant has announced. The opportunity is open for all women from Gaston and Lincoln Counties. Site of the workshop is the Gaston College Industrial Building.

The session will open with a coffee hour and registration starting at 9:15 a.m. and concluding at ten o'clock. Dr. Woody Sugg, college president, will greet participants in the program. Dr. Mike Latta, Dean of the Continuing Education Division, will introduce the speaker, Mrs. Jean Eason, who will center her remarks around the topic of Responsible Women: Challenge for Growth.

Mrs. Eason is the director of Life Span Counseling Center for Women at Salem College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She is also director of the Office of Adult Education, University of North Carolina at Greensboro and counselor-director for Vega Services, a private agency in Greensboro.

The purpose of the workshop is to help women in this area know what opportunities are available for them in the areas of education, employment, and volunteer services.

Educational institutions represented at the workshop will include Appalachian State University, Belmont Abbey College, Gaston College, Lenoir Rhyne College, Queens College, Sacred Heart College, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and Winthrop College.

The employment agencies represent will be Dunhill of Charlotte, Gastonia Branch, and Employment Security Commission.

Volunteer agencies to be represented include FISH, Gaston Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Gastonia Junior Service League, North Carolina Orthopedic Hospital, and Resources on Volunteer Work to Fit the Individual.

A question and answer session will follow the address. For further information, interested persons may call Mrs. Helen Bryant or the Office of Continuing Education at Gaston College.

The Best Route From Dirty Ankle To Gaston Is Through Argentina

When a girl from a reasonable large city like Charlotte attends a large university like UNC and makes good and enjoys her education, no one notices. But when a girl from Dirty Ankle, North Carolina, attends high school in Mendoza, Argentina, and a Mexican university in Saltillo before transferring to Gaston College, it's news, particularly when the student falls in love at first sight with the college.

Such is the case with Rachel Brackett, who explains that Dirty Ankle is in the suburbs of Toluca, which is not far from Casar, which in turn is a neighbor of Flay (or Flea, as some of the natives call it) and Belwood. Her reasons for attending Gaston College are worth reading, so don't stop now. Or if you can't take the time to read the entire article, read the last couple of paragraphs.

It wasn't that Miss Brackett could not get into a larger school; she was accepted by the North Carolina Governor's School to study drama. Then she was accepted by a large college not far from Gaston. But before she finished high school she wanted to see what

the rest of this part of the world is like. So she studied in Argentina and learned that school in America is a snap after one look at what an eleventh-grade student there must study.

"We had twelve subjects there," she laments. We had to take physics, chemistry, geometry, Spanish literature, English or French, physical education, music, psychology, zoology, anatomy, western geography, and political science. All of these are required courses; the only elective was that we could study either French or English."

The bright point in all of this was the Mendoza is the chief wine-making city in Argentina, and Miss Brackett points out that the managers of the wineries are always delighted to have visitors. "They are crazy about Americans in particular," she says.

Another bright spot was the presence of teen-age night clubs. Miss Brackett explains that these night spots were modern ski-lodge types, carpeted luxuriously and decorated beautifully.

"They eat all day long in



Rachel Brackett

Argentina," she says. "At seven, you have coffee and milk. At noon you have soup, spaghetti, salad, meat, vegetables, and dessert. At three o'clock you have fruit and coffee. At five it's time for tea and pastry. At nine you eat again before going to the night club. It was awful! It was great! I gained twenty-five pounds."

She found Mexico to be enjoyable but less aesthetic than Argentina. The poverty was depressing, she learned, and the people were and are still oppressed. The dating customs were more liberal and there were more Americans, but she still preferred Argentina to Mexico and she prefers Gaston

College to either.

When asked why she chose Gaston instead of the Governor's School or a large university, Miss Brackett replied, "Do you want the truth or the story I give when someone asks me why I came to Gaston?" Actually she has two reasons that she gives for coming here. One is that while she was serving as cheerleader in West Mecklenburg High School she tore a vocal cord and gave up on a drama career. "My voice and I can't be depended upon," she says.

The other story is that she wanted to attend a college that was near her home and one that would permit her to continue working at her job in a child-care center. She enjoys her work with children so much that she is now planning to major in elementary education.

The truth about her coming here is better than either of the two versions above. As she tells it, "I really didn't know where I wanted to go to college, so my mother called a nearby school. She had to call six numbers and later was sent all over the campus to try to

get a little information about entrance requirements. Then one day my parents were driving past Gaston College and my father stopped in to find out what kind of school it really was. A lady at the switchboard was so very nice and helpful and made them feel as if she really wanted to help, and she directed them to the office of Mr. Ray Medford. Then a group of students can by and offered to show them around the campus. Everybody was so helpful that my father was totally convinced. And when something impresses my father, it has to be good!"

When asked if she has found Gaston to be as impressive as her parents did, Miss Dirty Ankle of 1972 answered, "I love everything I've seen here. The students have made me feel at home and the college pleases me so much that I've told all of my high school friends, and now a lot of them are making plans to come to Gaston."

We just thought you'd like to know how one gets from Dirty Ankle to Gaston College by way of Argentina and Mexico.