

Dust in the Corner

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Faculty Interview

Senor Reyes: MAC's Cuban professor

By LINDA FIELD
"Vamos a empezar con la leccion." Senor Reyes has begun another class.

Montreat's Spanish teacher came to the United States with his wife and daughter in 1961. They were leaving Cuba after the takeover of Castro's Community Party.

Senor Reyes taught at "La Progresiva," a Presbyterian college, for 25 years. He had his Ph.d. in Spanish from the University of Havana, with a minor in History. When "La Progresiva" was forced to shut down, the Reyeses escaped to Jamaica. They

prepared a month there for secret departure, then left for Miami, Florida. Most of their important papers and personal belongings were left behind. Senor Reyes smiles at the thought, "It is exciting now, yes? But then, no."

The Reyes family lived in Miami for the next 5 years. There Senor Reyes worked at the United Presbyterian Center for Refugees, supplying food and medical services to escaped Cubans.

In 1965, Senor Reyes received a letter from a missionary friend, asking him to consider a teaching position

at Montreat - Anderson, which needed a Spanish teacher. Senor Reyes immediately contacted the school, and after his credentials were approved, was accepted to begin teaching the following year.

Senor Reyes says his wife briefly taught Spanish at two high-schools in Asheville, but does not work now. His daughter studied at Montreat and graduated from Central Presbyterian College. He comments that she was among the first girls to attend Central Presbyterian, and the only one in her biology class.

In his free time, Senor Reyes likes to read and listen to classical and religious music. "I must also work and study English," he chuckles. "That is very necessary, no?"

As a boy, Senor Reyes liked to play baseball, but has no preference for sports now. On most nice afternoons you'll find him walking home from Montreat - Anderson.

With his broken English, Senor Reyes adds, "My wife and I are very happy at Montreat. It is like a big family and everyone is very nice, we enjoy it here."

Is there division?

By JOE COMPTON

Montreat has a problem: there are too many Charismatic Christians, too many spiritless Christians, too many fence-sitters, and too many who don't care for any of the above. These four attitudes cover just about all of the students at MAC. Unfortunately, there seems to be no apparent bond between these groups. The reasons for this are basic and need to be dealt with. Since the latter two factions are constantly drifting from one side to the other, only two of four groups need be discussed - the Christians and the Charismatic Christians.

First of all, it is my opinion that there are no grave differences between these two groups. It is also my opinion that there is no division between the Christians on campus. As God is moving the world closer and closer to His Kingdom, the separate Christian factions are coming together as one, compact unit, one body. Different Christian factions are no longer known just by their sad and pious faces. Neither are Charismatic Christians known just by their exercise of the gift of tongues. More than ever Psalms 133:1 is coming to be understood and practiced by every disciple of Christ: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity." I would suppose that the persecuted Christians behind the Iron Curtain learned this important passage and quickly put it to use. When the police start banging on your door wanting your head, you'll not bother to ask your fellow Christians whether or not they speak in tongues before you ask them to pray for you - no, you'll simply ask for prayer.

This should be our attitude towards each other on campus and in church. Montreat has the most beautiful and loving spirit about it than any other college I've ever visited. The high school seniors who visited not long ago shared this same view. I sincerely do hate to hear people talk of division and non-unity. When people talk about it, others seem to believe it. The only division at Montreat is that caused by those who speak it forth and spread it about just like sawdust on a cheesecake - it covers up the real thing.

So, in conclusion, let us all partake of God's Kingdom together in love, which is the perfect bond of unity. When Christians do this, it is pleasing in the Lord's sight.

Gordon offers European Seminar

By MARK EMBLIDGE

How would you like to discover how you can spend this summer in Europe earning three to nine semester hours in history, English or Bible for as little as \$970? By now you have probably heard bits and pieces about Gordon College European Seminar. Last summer Dr. Crawford went as a teaching historian. Others at Montreat who have attended are Le Newell and myself. I don't know of a person yet who has attended this program who hasn't thought it to be the highlight of their college career.

This is the Gordon Program's 18th year. The two-month seminar attempts to combine team study under experienced historians with the extensive use of individual exploration in order to gain the greatest benefits from the

Europe experience. I found this method very effective. Part of the day was used to explore in a group, with the group historian telling the significance of a particular thing. The other part of the day was left in the individual's hand to do with what he pleased. Without the group historian, I would have missed a number of important and interesting things, but on the same hand to be on my own allowed me to attempt to get lost in the crowd and to the culture.

There are five seminars from which to choose. All five spend some time in Western Europe. Three of the groups leave Western Europe for Russia and Scandinavia, Greece, and Israel. There is also a group which spends half of the summer in the British

Isles.

The years of experience behind the seminar have taught the staff where to cut corners on the expenses. The basic cost is \$750 which includes air fare from Boston to Amsterdam and back, transportation through Europe by mini-bus, accommodations in Swiss Chalet hotels, hostels and camp grounds, plus two meals per day. The Greek, Russian, and Israel tours have a slight charge beyond this basic cost. Up to three courses can be taken. Their cost is listed in the brochure which can be acquired in Gaither lobby or from Dr. Crawford. I encourage you to look into what the Gordon European Seminar might have for you. All of us who have been will promise that you won't be sorry.

However we can dig up some interesting and humorous facts about the way things used to be in this community.

The original name, "Mountain Retreat Association," was thought to be a mouthful in the early days. A prize-winning contest was held to find a better name, and the award went to a Pennsylvania school teacher for "Montreat" (a contraction of "mountain" and "retreat").

Located in a 6-mile long valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Montreat's 4500 acre tract was in part paid for by the sale of 300 lots. Each lot sold for \$50.00 in 1897.

An early publicity printout claims of Montreat's natural beauty, "Atmospheric conditions perfect. Here nature gives her purest and freshest water. Health conditions are perfect. All things helpful are provided. The suggestion of evil is excluded."

In a 1912 pamphlet, "Montreat, What Some Write and Thousands Think," a visiting professor writes of the healthful benefits. "Its air is worth \$10,000 an acre. Full of ozone and tonic, it sends the tired man, especially the tired preacher, back home with life-tides fuller and bolder."

The ethics of Montreat are clearly shown in the ordinances adopted in 1901. A few of the select ones are listed:

Any person or persons found drunk on the streets of Montreat shall be fined \$25.00

Any person who shall habitually wander about the streets or public places of the town of Montreat, without any visible means of support, shall be arrested as a vagrant and fined \$5.00.

Any prostitute or other woman whose reputation for chastity is bad, found on the streets or public places of Montreat, soliciting men, drinking, or conducting herself in an improper manner shall, upon conviction, be fined \$10.00.

Persons engaging in dancing, card playing, and professional theatrical performances, these activities being contrary to the spirit of Montreat, shall be fined not less than \$25.00.

Any persons loading wagons, hiring out vehicles or horses for purposes other than to carry persons to or from places of worship, taking mail, passengers, or baggage to and from trains, on Sunday in the city of Montreat, shall be fined \$5.00.

In the past, Lake Susan was

considered a good place for "bathing in pure mountain water" where "multitudes of mountain fish may be seen."

In the summer of 1916, Montreat experienced her first and only flood. Incessant rain and a pileup of debris around the spillway caused the water to overflow the dam. The damage was not extensive, though a railway train was detained 50 miles from Black Mountain due to the flood.

In Oct. 1916, the first session of Montreat - Anderson College was opened. The cafeteria, originally a tenth of Howerton's size, served students and faculty during the school term, and guests in the summer. T-bone steaks could be bought for \$.20 each, and \$.35 would buy a whole meal. But hikers had to endure plain bread and hard-fried egg sandwiches for lunch.

This is but a brief look at some of the events and facts that have shaped Montreat's past. There are now over 400 homes in Montreat, a far cry from the original tents used to shelter those coming to the conferences. And people still enjoy the fellowship and mountain air.



Left to Right; Beth Suarez, John Bailey and Gail Tysor enjoy the sunshine as they lounge on the library lawn.

Montreat past seen in old records, documents