

**A Letter from the Director**

A baby llama was born on the knoll just a few days ago. Resident artist Hoss Haley helped with the delivery and photography instructor Ann Hawthorne documented his first hour of life with photos which she printed on eggshells for the annual Penland Easter egg hunt. Edwina Bringle's camera was also busy capturing the furry guy's eagerness to stand on his own. It seems that everyday the extraordinary and ordinary are reminding us to pay attention to these little details.

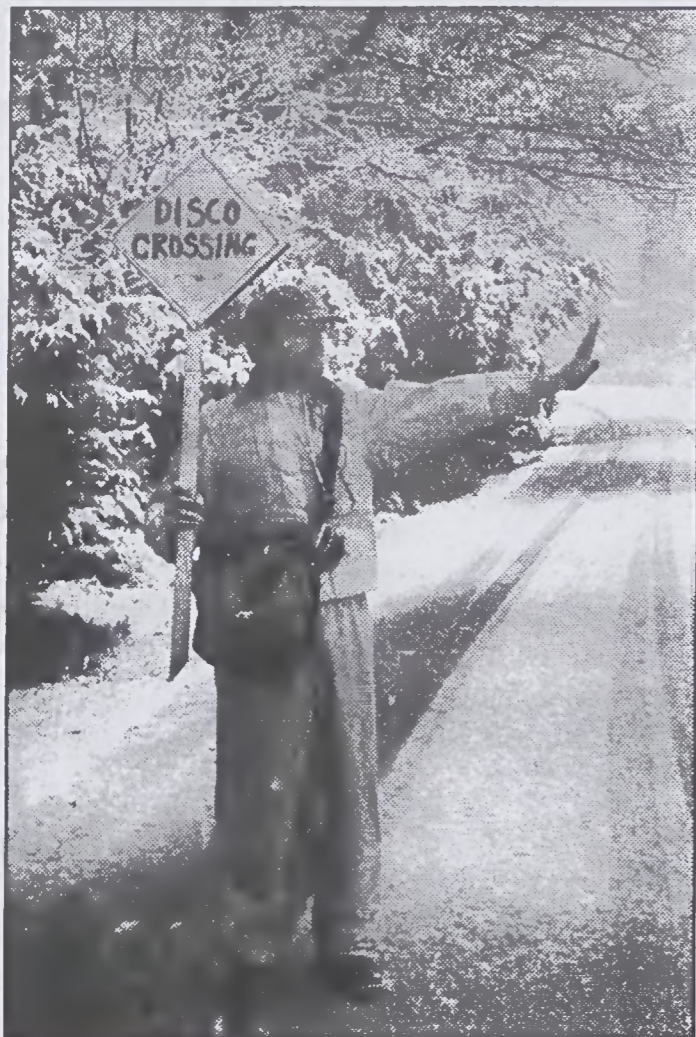
In the past year we have spent good times as a staff, board, and community on strategic planning and campus planning. These efforts help me to see that even as we move forward in time, we also remain the same in many essential ways. The through-lines of ingenuity, inventiveness, and openness are clear connections from past to present. The sacredness of place and the interaction among people are principles which guide us as strongly today as they did years ago.

Penland's trustees have undertaken a major initiative to strengthen our connections with past students and supporters as well as to introduce new donors to the school. Community events to thank supporters and update Penland friends on school activities have been organized by former board chair Mignon Durham and held in Charlotte, Tampa, Winston-Salem, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta. These events have been supported through the generosity of current board members, former board members, and friends—Amy and Philip Blumenthal, Kathryn and Hal Brown, Dot Hodges, Christy Taylor, B.E.Noel, Emily and Zack Smith, Hellenia Huntley and Isaiah Tidwell, Margo and Hilliard Eure, Tilda and John Brabson, Betty Gray and Bill Davis, Libba Evans and Jim Lambie, Kay Culbreath and Rod Heller, Lisa and Ron Brill, Amy and Bruce Edelstein, Pam and John Helms, Joan and Don Brown, Elice and Rhodes Haverty, Barbara and Bob Hunter and Pamola Powell, and Guy Lescault. Hodges Taylor Gallery, erl Originals, and the Barbara Archer Gallery have served as host sites in three of the locations. The board also established a new donor category called **Miss Lucy's Legacy**. This recognize friends who contribute \$1,000 or more in a year to sustain the innovations Lucy Morgan began in craft education 70 years ago.

This educational experiment continues to enrich the lives of students and instructors who are seeking a community where they can talk through issues and press ideas forward. Evenings are filled with instructor and studio assistant slides. We've had special programs on Penland's history with visiting historian Lynn Ennis and on the business of craft through Mayland Community College's small business center. Instructors talk about the joy of working with students who are tireless in their energy and responsiveness. Students talk of the growth that comes from learning in such a supportive environment.

Programs and people are why Penland exists. The facilities merely support the studio activity. But having a shower that works, a roof that doesn't leak, and heat to keep you warm can make that studio activity hum along without interference. The crew assembled in the photograph below has worked exceedingly hard the past nine months to repair, replace, and enhance much of the campus. On your next visit to Penland, let us show you some of the work that has been accomplished this year. There are new bathrooms in the Pines, a new roof on Radcliffe, new windows in the Lily Loom House, and the gallery in Horner Hall has been expanded to fill the entire first floor. I sound like a proud parent. Maybe it's time to go visit the llamas again.

—Jean McLaughlin



Robin Dreyer

Don't ask.

**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. You can send email to the Penland Line at this address: [publications@penland.org](mailto:publications@penland.org).

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Robin Dreyer/Ann Hawthorne

Penland's hard-working building and grounds crew. Left to right: Nils Winkler, Geof Finkels, Feet Williams, Chuck Nelson, Priscilla Johnson, Danny Jarrett. See page 6 for an unbelievable list of what they've been doing (it's in rhyme, even).