

Writer Says Valle Crucis Is Easy To Fall In Love With

By BOB FOLSOM (Sunday Editor)
(Reprinted from Fort Lauderdale, Fla. News and Sun-Sentinel)

Valle Crucis, N. C.—Valle Crucis is difficult to reach but an easy place to fall in love with. Oldtimers tell the story of a bus that couldn't make a turn on the narrow, winding road leading into valley town, so he nosed it over the side, bumped down the mountain until he caught the road curving back and rode merrily on his way.

Sounds a bit far-fetched? Not if you've been on the road. On its two-mile stretch, there are fourteen curves, five narrow ledges and occasional townfolk whizzing by—which is highly distracting if you happen to be coming in the opposite direction.

Bordered by high, green mountains, Valle Crucis is 10 miles west of Boone (el. 3,333), a mountain hamlet that took its name from Daniel Boone.

It is smack in some of the most spectacular mountain scenery in Eastern America.

Unspoiled
Because of its remoteness, Valle Crucis is untrammelled by the urban crush. There are no motels, no gas stations, no billboards.

In the summer the population swells from its normal 500 to about 750. Many of them have been coming here for years. The visitor can rent a cabin with lights and running water for about \$18 a week, first stocking up in Boone. If you've missed something, you can probably buy it at Howard W. Mast's General Merchandise.

Mast, whose grandfather was one of the valley's first settlers, carries everything from barbed wire to horse collars, from 25-pound sacks of flour to penny peppermint sticks. In the center of his dusty store stands an eight-foot cast burner, usually with townspeople sitting around it. In the winter, it's handy to have around, since the

temperatures dip to below zero, and the valley is sometimes snowed in.
Lazy Living
Valle Crucis has nothing to offer in the way of popular attractions, except the natural attributes of fishing, hiking or swimming—just right for a lazy vacation.

You can fish for rainbow trout in the Watauga River, which is actually just a small mountain stream that weaves through the valley.

It is idyllic to swim or fish in. Never more than hip deep in most parts, its banks are overgrown with vegetation, the water bubbling into small rapids formed by big rows of boulders in midstream.

If you don't prefer swimming, you can walk along the mountain trails, enjoying the scenery and amazingly varied growth. Within a radius of half a mile, I counted

beech, sycamore, elm, spruce, dogwood, mountain laurel, hickory, maple, sourwood, wild cherry, chestnut, oak, tulip poplar (thin as a telephone pole, it grows

straight as an arrow to 60 feet), pink and white rhododendron, and raspberries, blackberries, dewberries and winter grapes—all growing wild.

You also have to watch out for poison sumac, ivy and oak.

There are many tourist attractions within an hour's drive from Valle Crucis. In Boone, "Horn In The West," the outdoor drama depicting the story of Daniel Boone, shows nightly from June until September.

Tweetsie Train
At Blowing Rock (el. 4,090) a plus mountain resort, there's an 18-hole golf course, open to the public. Near there is located the area's most popular attraction, the Tweetsie Railroad.

The railroad is a Civil War era train which takes visitors on a three-mile trip around Roundhouse Mountain through gorges and fills and over trestles. "Indians," dressed to the hilt in feathers and war

paint, stage a mock attack on the train at one point. At another, two "robbers" make off with the Wells Fargo money box.

From Blowing Rock, you can get on the scenic Blue Ridge Parkway and drive up to 5,664-foot Mt. Mitchell, the highest point east of the Rockies. It's a drive and sight you won't forget.

Doctor Talk

By JOHN B. REMBERT, M. D.

In recent months the reader's attention has been called to the fact that infectious syphilis is once again a public health menace. This increase has been apparent during the past several years and the number of cases in many large metropolitan areas are causing much medical concern.

It is estimated that the number of untreated patients with syphilis is approximately one million and this number is now being increased by about 60,000 new cases yearly.

With this alarming increase in cases the public must be made aware of the serious complications following infectious syphilis if not treated. In the untreated cases 1 in every 200 patients will become blind; 1 in 50 will become psychotic; 1 in 15 patients will acquire syphilitic heart disease; and 1 in 25 cases will be incapacitated in some degree.

The greatest increase in the venereal disease rate is found among the younger age groups—teen-agers and young people comprising only 13 per cent of the population, but they were involved in almost 50 per cent of the venereal disease epidemics during 1958.

The general public, and particularly young persons, must once again be made aware of the danger signals or symptoms and the great need for prompt medical attention.

During the primary stage of the infection every genital sore must be regarded as syphilis until proved otherwise. Such patients must consult with their family physician who will then carry out the necessary diagnostic tests to prove or disprove the presence of venereal disease. Treatment of such lesions should never be undertaken until a positive diagnosis is made.

Once a positive case of syphilis is diagnosed, then the most important phase of control is begun. This is the contacting of all known males or females with the diseased person and carrying out diagnostic tests to prove or disprove the presence of the disease, and to initiate therapy if syphilis is found to be present.

The general public, after many years of apparent control of syphilis, should realize that this disease is again a public problem—and that early medical attention is an absolute necessity.

Tape two or three wire hangers together with scotch tape or adhesive tape and your heavy garments will hang better—than take bias tape and twist over the hangers.

Col. Max Chapman Named President Of Lees-McRae

Banner Elk — Mr. Robert G. Hayes, President of the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association, Banner Elk, announced the appointment of Colonel Max C. Chapman as President of Lees-McRae College.

Colonel Chapman, U. S. Marine Corps (retired), was the winner of the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star medals for heroism in World War II and Korea. A native of Anderson County, S. C., he graduated from Clemson College in 1936. He subsequently accepted a commission and served continuously until his retirement June 30, 1961.

His broad service experience included various school, command and staff assignments. He graduated from the Marine Corps Command and Staff School, the Armed Forces Staff College and the British Imperial Defense College of London, England. He commanded the famous Sixth Marine Regiment of the Second Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N. C., during 1956-1957.

In addition to the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star medal and the Woolchi medal, the Colonel holds the American Defense Service Medal with Base clasp; the European-Middle Eastern Area Campaign medal; the Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign medal; the World War II Victory medal; the China Service medal; the Navy Occupation Service medal with European clasp; the National Defense Service medal; the Korean Service medal with two bronze stars; the United Nations Service medal, and the Korean Presidential Unit Citation Award.

Returning to Washington in early

1959, he assumed duties as the Assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence for Marine Corps Matters which were continued until his retirement.

Colonel and Mrs. Chapman, the former Helen Gardner Trotman of Norfolk, Va., were residing in Washington, D. C., prior to coming to Lees-McRae. They have a daughter, Helen, a 1961 graduate of Sweetbriar College, and a son, Max C. Jr., who is a senior at Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Va.

Mason Goes To Bryson City

Lenoir, Aug. 24—State Highway Patrolman C. W. (Bill) Mason, who has been stationed in Caldwell county for the past 25 months, left Wednesday for a new assignment at Bryson City with Troop F of District 6.

"We have enjoyed working with Mason and hate to lose him," said Sgt. M. S. Parvin of the local patrol headquarters. "We know he will do a good job for Sgt. Tom Sanders of District 6."

Mason came to Lenoir from Boone on July 1, 1959. He is married to the former Marilou Plemmons of Canton, and they have two children, Beth, two, and Roger, one. The Masons have made their home at 310 Abernethy street while in Lenoir.

Patrolman Mason was guest of honor at a charcoal steak supper at the Spencer cottage at Edgemont Tuesday night.

Patrolmen John Hayes Spencer was host to the stag supper. Present in addition to Mason and Spencer were John Gibbs, C.

Frank Kennerly, Charles Jones, Wilfong Frazier, Jr., Dr. Robert B. Roach, Kenneth Austin and Kearney Pearce.

Replacing Mason in Lenoir will be John Wayne Turney of Mt. Airy, a recent graduate of patrol school at Chapel Hill.

President says he has no plan to replace Bowles. Rules panel bars inquiry into Birch Society.



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