

TRIPS

CLASS X/from page 1B

ready to channel what I learned in Class X into productive action in the community."

Leadership Charlotte Class X had many members who, like Thomas, were already seen as community leaders.

Madine Falls is President of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League. Ricky Hall is an area supervisor with the county Department of Social Services.

Denise Jones is a Nursing Instructor at Charlotte Memorial Hospital. Sherry Marsh is an Assistant County Manager.

Laura McClettie is Chairman of the Board of the Afro-American Cultural Center. And Ronald Ross is Youth Program Director with the National Conference of Christians and Jews. These are a sampler of community activists in Class X.

"Leadership Charlotte Class X is the product of a mature organization," said Michael Evans. "They have come through and

been tempered now. Their new community role will be to take on responsibility, set goals and then turn those into reality."

Evans, who is immediate past president of Leadership Charlotte, is the only black ever elected to head the community organization.

He and wife Yvonne Mims Evans are the only black married couple to complete the program to date. Mrs. Evans is an alumna of Class V. Evans is an alumnus of Class VI.

Another famed alumna of Leadership Charlotte Class X is television personality Beatrice Thompson.

"It was one of the best experiences of my life," Thompson said. "Our class was one of the most invigorating groups of people I have encountered. As a TV newswoman, I've been in some challenging situations. This program equalled anything I've experienced professionally."



staff members at WALT DISNEY WORLD

Mickey Mouse They're Not!

By WILLIAM JAMES BROCK
Post Entertainment Editor

Lake Buena Vista, Fla. - Reservations are now being taken for the first new Walt Disney World hotels to be built at the Central Florida resort in 17 years.

Late-summer vacationers can book nights in the luxurious Grand Floridian Beach Resort beginning August 1 while those planning fall trips also have the choice of the moderately-priced Caribbean Beach Resort Hotel beginning October 1.

Individual room nights for the two hotels can be reserved through Walt Disney World Central Reservations (305-824-8000). Package plans can be booked through local travel agents.

The 900-room Grand Floridian, described by Disney as "the jewel in the crown" of its seven resorts, recalls the glory days when the Rockefellers and the Roosevelts led the annual winter pilgrimage to the land of sunshine and citrus. Located on the

monorail with a view of the Magic Kingdom, the Victorian-style hotel will be the most luxurious on the Disney property.

The 81 concierge and suite rooms in the 225,000 square foot main building will include in-room facilities such as a wet bar and lavish decor plus private elevator access to the concierge/suite levels. In addition to the main building with its palatial vaulted lobby, the complex includes five lodge buildings, four and five stories in height, with 819 additional guest rooms.

Dining opportunities at the Grand Floridian will be diverse -- from a top your own burger at "Gasparilla Grill and Games" to intimate, candlelight, gourmet dinners at "Victoria & Albert's" with elegant service fit for royalty.

Largest restaurant will be "Flagler's," which will showcase a traditional Florida menu. "Narcoosee Nicks," a seafood bar restaurant on the 200-acre Sev-

en Seas Lagoon, will feature a show kitchen where cooks will broil, steam, saute and smoke the catches of the day.

Hotel recreation is water-oriented -- white sand beaches on the lagoon, a marina with rental craft, a 275,000 gallon swimming pool and a children's activity area. The health club will include an exercise room, saunas and massage room.

Nightly rates in the Grand Floridian will range from \$165 to \$225.

Disney's Caribbean Beach Resort will be made up of "villages," comprised of clusters of two-story buildings. Five distinct styles will carry the relaxed Caribbean feeling throughout the resort, blending cool pastel walls and white-wood fencing under darker metal roofs.

A typical 300 square foot room will have two double beds and will accommodate four persons. Individual villages will have their own swimming pools,

white sand beaches and laundry facilities.

Located on a 200-acre site southeast of Epcot Center, the tropically themed hotel will surround a 42-acre lake. Guests will be able to travel to other parts of the Vacation Kingdom on the Walt Disney World transportation system.

Six counter-service specialty restaurants will feature baked goods, barbecue, native Caribbean fare, soups and sandwiches and other beef and seafood favorites.

The main beach will feature a swimming pool with a waterfall and slides, a playground and other themed elements. The marina will provide small sailboats, and paddleboats for rent.

For further information, write Walt Disney World Central Reservations, P. O. Box 10,100, Lake Buena Vista, FL 10,100. Phone 305 - 824-8000 (*After April 16, the area code changes to 407).



TITUS & CARLENA IVORY

Photos/LA NEY



WILLIAM JAMES BROCK & Sen. TERRY SANFORD



RAY GOODING & DENISE JONES

Inn Crowd

By Crystal Craft
Charlotte Conventions
Writer

The number of hotel and motel rooms in the Charlotte area has more than doubled in six years.

Rooms, including those presently under construction or still in the planning phase, total 15,588. At the end of 1981, the Charlotte area had only 7,149 rooms.

Much of the hotel/motel growth is taking place along I-77, near the Charlotte-Douglas International Airport and its more than 350 daily flights. New hotels along I-77 include The Royce, a full-service, luxury hotel; Marriott Courtyard with 138 rooms; and Cricket Inn, offering 122 moderately-priced rooms.

Other developers are exploiting the enormous growth within the uptown area. The Gateway Center located near I-77 and West Trade Street will offer a European-style, luxury hotel - The Compro. The old Mayfair Hotel, located in the heart of the city at 6th and Tryon streets, is under renovation and will reopen as the Dunhill Hotel.

Including the announced additions, Charlotte will have an additional 1,700 to 1,800 new rooms uptown for a total 4,000 rooms uptown - more than most other N.C. cities have totally.

Uptown and I-77 are not the only locations to host new or expanded hotels. Developers have recognized that Charlotte is a magnet for travel dollars; in fact, Charlotte is the top N.C. travel destination, attracting \$804 million in tourist spending, according to the 1986 figures, the latest available from the N.C. Department of Commerce.

Growth of Lodging Industry in Charlotte Since 1981

Total rooms as of 1981 - 7,149.
Rooms added in 1981 (108).

Total rooms as of 1982 7,257.
Rooms added in 1982-1984 (2,160).

Total rooms as of 1984 9,417.
Rooms added 1985 - Present (1,329).

Total rooms at present 12,091.
Rooms under construction or planned (3,497).

Total rooms existing, under construction or planned 15,588.

Take Off!

By Janet Maizner
Travel Writer

Charlotte, N.C. -- The sun and fun are better in Jamaica, as residents from North Carolina are finding out. In fact, according to Charles Handal, southeast regional manager for the Jamaica Tourist Board, the Caribbean island has seen a tremendous increase in visitors from North Carolina.

"Tourism from North Carolina tripled in 1987 and the numbers will continue to rise," stated Handal, "particularly with new service beginning in June."

International Travel Arrangers, the Jamaica tour operator, will initiate weekly charter service June 11 using a Continental Airlines 727-200 series airplane. The charter will depart Charlotte/Douglas Municipal Airport every Saturday for Montego Bay, Jamaica.

ITA is offering 8 day/7 night summer '88 special packages starting from \$299 per person, double occupancy. Hotel, round-trip air fare, airport transfers and hotel tax are included.

A nonstop two-and-one-half hour flight delivers vacationers to a diversity of accommodations and on-island activities that make Jamaica the perfect destination for single travelers, couples, families and groups.

For more information on travel to Jamaica, call your travel agent, or the Jamaica Tourist Board, 1320 South Dixie Highway, Suite 1100, Coral Gables, Florida 33146, at 305/665-0557.

This Trip Is Murder!

By Mike Blanton
Arts Writer

CHARLOTTE--an intriguing murder mystery will be an added highlight of Discovery Place's train excursion to Charleston, S.C., June 4-5. Mark de Castrique Film Productions, Inc., has written an original mystery complete with villains, victims and heroes. The melodrama will be enacted while en route to Charleston and will challenge participants' powers of observation and deduction as passengers attempt to solve this perplexing murder.

The fascinating Norfolk Southern Exhibit Car will be another attraction on the train bound for Charleston and the Spoleto Arts Festival. This rolling museum includes a working model railroad that is powered by solar energy and is complete with computer displays, videos, static models and a working hot box detector.

Space is still available for this unique trip but seats are going fast. The "Discovery Express" will depart Charlotte at 7:30 a.m., Saturday, June 4th headed for Columbia, S.C., where travelers will be treated to brunch at the California Dreamin' restaurant in Columbia's restored depot. The train will then pull out of the station headed for the small railroad town of Branchville, S.C. Can-Can girls, gunfights, live music and a tour of the railroad museum await visitors in Branchville.

The "Discovery Express" is scheduled to arrive in Charleston at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Saturday afternoon giving travelers plenty of time to prepare for a sensational evening at the Spoleto Arts Festival. The return trip departs Charleston Sunday, June 5th, at 9:30 a.m. and will arrive in Charlotte around 6:30 p.m.

This unique train excursion costs \$130.00 for museum members and \$149.00 for non-members. Hotel accommodations are separate and start at \$42.80 per person. All reserved rooms are in hotels located in the center of Charleston's historic district.

For more information or to register by phone, call 704-372-6261.

Discover the Excitement!

DIAL 976-DATE

The Nations newest & greatest electronic meeting place

- Private & Confidential
- Hear Personal Messages
- Must Be 18 + 24 Hours A Day • Only \$3.00 per call
- NEW MESSAGES WITH EVERY CALL
- Selective Introductions
- Leave Personal Ads

ADDITIONAL 976 PROGRAMS

976-LAFF FOR THE HOTTEST JOKES
976-1313 24 HOUR SPORTS SCORES UPDATED EVERY 10 MINUTES Only 50¢ per call
976-7676 FOR ROMANCE FANTASY
976-SOAP FOR 'TODAYS' SOAP OPERA RECAP
(Only 95¢ per call) Outside Charlotte Add 1 + Number