

Outward Bound School

# Unusual NC School Inspires Unusual Thoughts, Challenges Self-Worth

## Brevard Director Invites Inquiries

(Editor's note: The North Carolina Outward Bound School's Board of Directors is responsible for raising the money to fund the school, provide the quality of personnel and equipment required, and make available scholarships to assure the desired mixture of participants which are vital to the preservation and development of authentic Outward Bound programs. One of the directors resides in Transylvania County and would be happy to talk to any individual or any industry representative who would like to know more about the school and its program or who would like to discuss making a contribution for the continuation of these programs. He is James S. "Jim" Lewis, III, of Brevard, President of the Lewis Building Corporation, developers of the Sequoyah Wood project on the Greenville Highway. Mr. Lewis has participated in the Outward Bound program adults' course and is personally aware of what the school offers. He has provided the following article about the school and invites anyone interested to call him at 883-3822 for further information.)

"Accomplishment is when you learn to use your extra strength to help someone else rather than get to the top first," wrote a student.

Unusual thought. Unusual student. Unusual school.

The thought, simple but profound, was not parroted from some textbook. It crystallized out of deep, intense experience.

And it is quoted in a simple but profound booklet which begins with a quote from Plato:

"The first and best victory is to conquer self."

The graphic new booklet introduces the concept of the unusual school, the North Carolina Outward Bound School (NCOBS) on Table Rock Mountain, one of seven such schools in the United States and one of more than 30 Outward Bound schools throughout the world.

NCOBS, established in 1966, "uses structured confrontation with challenges found in rugged, natural environments as the means to discover self-worth, human values and a compassion for others."

### NEEDS IMAGE, MONEY

Friday, January 14, 1972, far from the

demanding cliffs and churning rapids of Linville Gorge, these booklets were passed around a gigantic board room table in Charlotte to 21 men and women from the eastern United States who care about Outward Bound.

Most were members of the NCOBS board of directors, gathered for their initial 1972 meeting using the hospitality of North Carolina National Bank's plush fourth-floor board room.

The meeting, opened by chairman Rufus Dalton, got reports from NCOBS director Dan Meyer, treasurer Joe Kent, fund raising chairman Maurice Hill and public relations chairman David Drexel. There was a lot of discussion.

And what it all meant was this:

This unusual school they believe in, incorporated in the state as a private, non-profit educational institution chartered by Outward Bound, Inc. of Reston, Virginia, and affiliated with the Outward Bound Trust of Great Britain, is healthy and growing.

But it needs a strong image and a lot of money. Scholarships alone for economically disadvantaged students would cost \$48,000 of the current capital fund goal of \$225,000.

The members of the board themselves have demonstrated their commitment since 1966 by personally contributing more than \$85,000, plus carrying a \$120,000 bank note with which the school began on a shoestring and a lot of faith.

### DEPENDS ON GENEROSITY

Of course, NCOBS depends entirely on the generosity of private financial resources such as grants and contributions from individuals, foundations and industry, all of which are tax-deductible.

All of this talk about money is something boards of directors have to be concerned with. But it is quite a different thing from a profit-making corporation's concern with money. Because the product and the profits are intangible: they are experiences and attitudes kicking up sparks in a kid's mind.

The profits are "when you see the magic happen," as board member Mrs. Joanne Holmhouse of Coconut Grove, Florida, puts it. Outward Bound students, mostly teenagers, spend most of 22 days at the school in the field in 10-man crews, getting instruction in first aid and mountain rescue, rock climbing, rappelling down a 500-foot rock face, taking long expeditions and being exposed to other stressful experiences.

During that time each student keeps a daily journal, recording his thoughts and feelings. And in those journals you find clues to the "magic" that has happened.

"I learned that you don't need color tele-



OUTWARD BOUND—A school where "Structural confrontation with challenges found in rugged natural environments are used as the means to discover self-worth, human values and a compassion for others..."

visions, fancy clothes or fantastic looks to feel good about yourself," wrote one.

"I made a better friend of myself," another wrote simply.

"It didn't matter where we stopped for the night. We were always at home in any weather, any terrain or any situation," commented still another.

Look at this one: "These strangers entered my life and broke definitions of what caring meant."

Or this: "I finally acted on my feelings and not on my feelings about my feelings."

Or this: "Because we was nationwide I thought my thoughts were going to be different. But we got along great. I liked that."

"I've done things which I would never have trusted myself to do — and in the process acquired a new appetite and set new boundaries for what I can do and hope to do," wrote another.

### FOUNDED ON A BELIEF

Unusual thoughts? Unusual school? Why is it unusual and what is Outward Bound?

Outward Bound is founded on a belief that persons can and do develop lasting self-confidence, awareness and compassion for others through sharing stressful and demanding experiences in rugged, natural settings. The North Carolina School used the mountains, forests and waters of the Southern Appalachian region as the teaching vehicle through which these values are discovered.

Participants are grouped in crews of ten, with two Outward Bound instructors assigned to provide initial skill training and general supervision of the crew. Spending most of their time in the field, the crew goes through a 22 day syllabus which includes instruction in first aid, mountain rescue, rock climbing and rappelling, rafting and cross-country expeditions totalling some fifty miles of trails and bushwhacks through rugged terrain. In addition, each participant spends three days and nights alone with a minimum of equipment.

In the end, the person has accomplished things he or she never dreamed of, and made possible through the trust and teamwork developed in a group of people from all walks of life. The intensity of the experience, which involves very real risks, has tempered the individual to a degree beyond that which he or she would normally encounter, and hence prepares the person for dealing effectively with the future.

## Cathey's Creek News Reported

By Mrs. Ken Riley

CATHEY'S CREEK — The weather around these corners has been pretty hectic. The winds were pretty hard in these parts along with snow, sleet and rain all about the same time.

We were saddened to learn of two of our neighbors in the Selica section passing away in the last few days, a former policeman, Earl Lee and a tv technician "Bud" Bryson. We wish to express our very deepest sympathy.

Allen McKinney of Lake Toxaway visited the Albert McKinney home last Sunday.

Sean and Shannon O'Shields of Hendersonville spent the weekend with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom McKinney the past week.

Jack and Wanda McKinney visited the Tom McKinney's last Sunday. Jack is still employed at Monticello, Ga.

Miss Annabelle Dunn has returned home after a few days in the local hospital. We hope by now she is a lot improved. Several of our folks have had colds and flu. We wish all a speedy recovery.

Luhar Garren is slowly improving after another stay in the local hospital.

"Butch" Johnson was lucky enough to win a scholarship recently. He and Ricky Lee plan to go to Western Carolina University this weekend and we hope them much success. They are both fine ball players.

### CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks to our many friends and neighbors for their loving kindness to us in the loss of our beloved husband and father. Also, the many churches, the Olin employees, Brevard College and the V.F.W. #4307. Mrs. Ann Misenheimer (wife) Bob and Steve (sons)

When you think of prescriptions, think of VARNER'S, adv.

## S. L. Mason Dies In Va.

Samuel Leonard Mason, 87, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, formerly of McDowell county and Brevard, died last Saturday morning in Virginia Beach after a long illness.

Surviving are two sons: Horace J., of Burlington, and Charles Mason, of Pope Air Force Base; five daughters: Mrs. Frank Holden, of Brevard; Mrs. Ward Cross and Mrs. Bernard Cross of Ottawa, Illinois; Mrs. William Austin, of Virginia Beach and Mrs. William Moree of Rock Hill, South Carolina; 18 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Services were held Tuesday, at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the Yancy Street Church in Marion.

The Reverends Allison Robinson and George Anderson officiated.

pallbearers were grandsons: Kenneth, Carroll, Jerry and Douglas Holden, Donald Kessel and Charles McIntyre.

### CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Alfreda Gordon wish to express their thanks and appreciation to everyone for the many kindnesses shown them during her illness and death. "We can never thank you enough."

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gordon and Family



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