

Ice Storm Hits Hard in Swannanoa Valley

By UVA MIRACLE

An ice storm moved into the Swannanoa Valley from the north late Sunday night and early Monday morning.

The area was hit very hard, especially in the Broadriver section.

Residents in that area were without power for some 32 hours and some isolated areas, where there are no residents,

were still without power on Tuesday. Bill Holcombe, manager of the Black Mountain office of Carolina Power and Light Company, reported that they received their first call about 9 o'clock Sunday morning and they immediately opened a radio base control station in the local office.

In addition to their own work crews, they hired seven private contractors and five tree crews, working a total of about 60-70 men.

Montreat, Ridgecrest, The Sanatorium, and western parts of town were without power for short periods of time. This was caused by trees falling across and breaking main lines.

Holcombe reported the crews worked around the clock to restore service.

George Setzer of Southern Bell reported most of their problem was in the Broadriver section. Although no major cables were broken, some 70 people had broken telephone wires and were without service; however, they plan to have all telephones back in service by Tuesday, December 16th.

He reported they had tree crews in working to help clean up the debris.

The men were fed in the field.

Mrs. Charles Fortune of Chestnut Mountain Road reported a number of families

were without water because they had electric pumps. Neighbors helped each other in clearing up trees.

Mrs. Fortune said "Neighbors counted 50 service trucks and crews in a very small area working all night to get repairs made. We want to thank Carolina Power and Light and the Southern Bell Telephone company for their tremendous effort."

A power pole fell through the window of the bedroom of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ledbetter of Broadriver.

The State Highway Patrol reported no accidents due to the ice storm and local police officers in Swannanoa and Black Mountain also reported no mishaps.

Tremendous damage was done to the young timber in Broadriver especially to the poplar groves.

The Book Division of the Swannanoa Woman's Club will hold its Christmas meeting Tuesday evening, Dec. 16, at Montreat Assembly Inn. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Husbands of members will be guests.

Two large limbs broken by the ice storm Sunday. This tree on Blue Ridge Road received major damage from the weight of ice on its limbs. Many trees came completely

down in the valley, disrupting power to hundreds of residents. Some roads were almost impossible because of limbs and trees. Staff Photo.

REMEMBER LAST SUMMER? If last Sunday's ice storm made you long for warmer days, maybe this photo of a summer scene on the porch of the Monte Vista Hotel will help thaw you out. Photo taken last September by Charles Wellen Jr.



TWO LARGE LIMBS BROKEN BY THE ice storm Sunday. This tree on Blue Ridge Road received major damage from the weight of ice on its limbs. Many trees came completely down in the valley, disrupting power to hundreds of residents. Some roads were almost impossible because of limbs and trees. Staff Photo.



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Owen High Honor Roll For Second Six Weeks

Following is the Owen High School Honor Roll for the second six weeks.

"A" HONOR ROLL

12th Grade - Ernest Vincent Crist, Vera Roberta Hensley, Ronald Roy Melin, and Amelia June Lunsford.

11th Grade - None.

10th Grade - Ernest Albert Andrews, Brenda Sharon Burchfield, Donna Jeanne Cordell, Richard Runion Earley, Barbara Jean Moore, Mary Ann Washburn.

9th Grade - Melanie Louise Hyatt, Marcia Leah Melton, Erwin Truett Smith, Samuel Barnett Thielman.

"B" HONOR ROLL

12th Grade - Sarah Louise Andrews, Richard Oliver Brown, Kathy Lynn Burgin, Deborah Kay Chandler, Patricia Joy Chapin, Betty Kay Davis, Doris Ann Davis, Laura

Virginia Gill; Also Karen Marie Greene, Helen Heath, Evelyn Theresa Inabinett, Nancy Lee Lackey, Patricia Louise Lytle, Pamela Darlene Moyers, Linda Lorraine Owenby, Sandra Jean Owenby, Shirley Ann Roberts; Also, Alvera Diane Robertson, Wilma Jean Russell, Linda Ann Shook, Joseph Thomas Simpson, Rhonda Diane Singleton, Robbi McMillan Stubbs.

11th Grade - Michael Stewart Ballard, Robert Jack Clements, Constance LaRae Connor, Gretchen Evangeline Corbett, Danny Ray Dalton, Paula Faye Hyder, Patricia Genella Lewis;

Also Philip Alan Martin, Terry Lynne McElrath, Lisa Gale Milton, Debra Lynn Shuford, Emily Kirkpatrick Snyder, Lynn Carol Taylor, Ronald Wilson Turner, Laura

Jean Vein, Ronnie James Watson, Gregory Bryan West.

10th Grade - Robert Alston Barker, Iris Odette Bowlin, Stanley Maurice Brank, Michael Ross Butler, Edward Eugene Carlyle, Janet Louise Carson, Alden Ann Clark, Rebecca Lynn Craig;

Also, Diana Lola Derberry, Jane Elizabeth Gilbert, Robert Landon Hensley, John Richard Hudson, Jerry Morris Johnson, Susan Francis Jolly, Catherine Elizabeth Klutz, Cathy Darlene Lloyd, Nancy Ellen Lytle, Susan LaTraill Marler, Shirley Ruth Morris;

Also, Cindy Ann Nache, Cathy Lynn Neese, Jackie Margaret Ogle, Shirley Claudine Rice, Yolanda Yvette Scott, Bertha Lena Simmons, Rebecca Denise Singleton, Linda Diana Stone, Mark Torbit Summitt, Robert Larry Thompson.

9th Grade - Debra Joy Allen, Susan Ann Ballard, Patricia Ann Bane, Jane Alice Beebe, Carolyn Priscilla Burgess, Gwendolyn Burgin, Lou Cindy Burnette, Melissa Gail Burnette, Sandra Lee Chapin, Donna Marie Clark, Laura Anne Davis;

Also Regina Charlene Davis, Janet Lynn Davis, Martha Frances Duntun, Marilyn Fox, Brenda Dianne Gilliam, Debbie Lynne Gragg, Karen Lee Grove, Mary Kathryn Guffey, Nina Angela Hollifield;

Also, Debbie Lee Jones, Lynda Dianne Kilpatrick, James Richard Ledbetter, Phoebe Pricilla Ledbetter, Peggy Jean Logan, Jane Elaine Lytle, Susan Marie Maleski, Truett Paul McAneer, Eva Jane Melton, Rebecca Lynn Miller;

Also, Tina Jean Newman, Elizabeth Karen Osteen, Rosalie Phillips, Bonnie Bea Robinson, Carolyn Renee Robertson, Suzanne Mary Steppe, Theresa Dail Stepp, Karen Lynn Turner, Deborah Diane Wagoner and Susan Dawn Wilson.

Cable TV, Tax Rate Pass Third Reading

Cable Television and tax rate change ordinances passed their third and final readings by the Black Mountain board of aldermen at the regularly scheduled meeting on Wed., Dec. 3 in the city hall.

The new zoning ordinances passed their second reading after some discussion.

A Black Mountain police officer, C. L. Sexton, resigned after approximately five years on the force. He has been replaced by C. E. Slagle, Jr.

In other business, the city aldermen received a petition presented by Captain Armin Gunther (ret) carrying 32 signatures of people opposing extension of the Black Mountain city limits beyond one mile. The city has not proposed to do this. The city does not have the authority to zone beyond the city limits but this does not represent extension of the city limits.

At a special called meeting on Friday, Dec. 5, city aldermen awarded a contract to C. W. Smith, an Asheville surveyor, calling for him to establish new boundary lines for the town of Black Mountain, exactly one mile in all directions from the railroad depot on Sutton Street.

Smith said he will begin immediately and complete the survey, including maps, by January 1. He will survey the area involved, mark lines and place markers, and revise or make a new plat of the final survey. His charge will be \$3,500. Markers will be provided by the Town.

The city aldermen will not meet again in December. Their next meeting will be the first Wednesday in January at 7:30 p.m. in the city hall.

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Warren Wilson Wins 4 Yr. Accreditation

Warren Wilson College received official accreditation as a senior college at the annual meeting Wednesday of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in Dallas, Tex.

President Arthur M. Bannerman and Dean Henry W. Jensen represented the local institution at the meeting at which official notification of regional accreditation was announced.

Warren Wilson became a coeducational junior college in 1942 and has long been accredited as a two-year institution of higher education by the Southern Association. In 1965, trustees decided to expand to senior college rank and double the institution's enrollment. The first senior class graduated last May.

During the past two years several teams of visiting educators representing the Southern Association have visited Warren Wilson to study the college and to make recommendations for the four-year liberal arts program. In accordance with suggestions from these committees, the faculty has been enlarged, substantial additions have been made to the library collection and changes in administrative procedures and business operations carried out.

Warren Wilson's four-year program was officially accredited by the North Carolina Association of Colleges and Universities on Nov. 7.

Woodmen Plan Big Installation Night

Camp 970, Swannanoa, of the Woodmen of the World, elected officers for 1970 who will be installed with the Ladies Court in a joint ceremony on Monday, Dec. 15th at the Woodmen Hall.

This will be a covered dish supper meeting.

All Woodmen members of Swannanoa and Black Mountain are urged to attend this very impressive and pretty ceremony.

This meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. The officers elected to the men's camp 970 are: Past President William Kuykendall; President - Flay Wilkie; Vice President - Paul Morrow; Treasurer - Charles English; Escort - Henry Jones;

Recording Secretary - E. M. Robinson; Watchman - Keneth Lanter; Sentry - Tommy Price; Drill Captain - Jay Hollifield; Drill Lieutenant - Jerry Penland; Auditors - Eugene Smith, Earl Waddell, Bill Morrow.

The Ladies Court No. 1146 have elected the following: Past President - Mary Greene; President - Delia Morrow; Vice President - Ethel Porcher; Treasurer - Angelin Burgess; Watchman - Karen Greene; Escort - Maggie Ballard; Musician - Jean Ramsey; Sentry - Reaba Mathews; Trustees - Joyce Metcalf, Judy Bridges and Rachael Nichman.

Jaycees To Distribute Toy Gifts

There will be a happy holiday for many deserving but needy children this year because of Black Mountain Jaycees, who plan to distribute food, toys and clothing on Christmas Eve.

Donations to this worthy project, new or used items, should be brought to Home Edit Company in Black Mountain before Dec. 19. Cash donations will be accepted and used to buy the above items.

Some pickup is available if you are unable to bring your donations. Call 669-8043 to arrange for pickup at your home.

Adventure Writer, Treasure Hunter, Deep Sea Diver, Mountain Climber

Son Of Blk. Mtn. Woman Leads World Wide Life Of Adventure

By UVA MIRACLE

The sparkling gleam in his eyes, the assurance in his talk, give you the impression that this is a man who has tasted the cup of life in both lands, drunk deeply and found good.

When you talk to him you feel the days of the buccaner and the daredevil still exist. His name is Bill Behre, a geographer, skin diver, explorer, author, newspaperman... an adventurer in the true sense of the word just waiting for new heights to climb or new ocean depths to explore.

Bill is the son of Dr. Elinor Behre, Laurel Lane, Black Mountain, former head of the Marine Institute and Biological Department of Louisiana State University.

It was through the wise and understanding tutelage of his father that Bill developed his love and enthusiasm for the sea and adventure.

He first used a diving helmet at the age of three. Since a helmet weighs about 150 lbs. it had to be lowered to water level and Bill dived under it and entered that way. By the age of six, he could identify all the local marine flora and fauna in his area.

His life as an adult really proves truth is stranger than fiction.

In 1960-61 he worked with Jacques Cousteau, who has recently had so many underwater spectaculars on TV, "The Desert Whales", "The Cycle of the Sea Turtles", "The Stores of the Seals". However most of his work was done with Cousteau in the Caribbean under the auspices of the French Institute.

In 1957, Behre, president of the Oceanic Recovery Inc., discovered a sunken ship in the Bahamas, containing certain artifacts. Two large silver and bronze kettles and cannonballs



A RUGGED and handsome man, Bill Behre, looks the part of an adventurer, world traveler, and deep sea diver. His physical ability is matched by an ability to write as well, as his many jobs chronicling his adventures proves.

of solid rock were found in the coral encrusted ruins.

According to Spanish authorities the kettles indicate the ship sank some time during the 14th century, about 150 years before Columbus made his trip to the new world. Thus suggesting Columbus may not have been first.

The wreck was under 35 ft. of water and badly disintegrated and believed to be relatively small.

The kettles are eight feet wide and four feet high with four legs.

Behre, then 34, and his partner Jack Brown were lowered on November 15, 1965 into 200 feet of water in a 30-foot diameter diving

sphere. For two entire weeks the men breathed oxygen extracted from the surrounding water. Although Behre did not invent the oxygen-extracting equipment his commercially designed model was the first to test its potential. The test was a success.

All of us have had dreams of going treasure hunting, seeking sunken Spanish galleons. In 1960 Behre read "Treasure Divers Guide" by John Potter Jr. One of the most intriguing stories was that of three Spanish ships sent out at one time. Two were decoys but one was actually loaded, so the story went, with gold worth \$35 million. Behre went to Colombia to investigate this

story. He heard vague references to the sinking of the gold ship on the southeast corner of Mount Catalina on a reef three miles from shore, where it had been allowed to burn rather than fall into pirate hands.

With Mundo, the Spanish diver, Behre entered the cave of bats located on the reef. In a rock pile 148 feet long he found what convinced him was the ballast from the ancient vessel. He found 19 six-pounder coral encrusted cannons and Spanish gold coins dated 1704 which he sent to the Smithsonian Institute to be checked for authenticity. They proved authentic.

In addition to buying gifts, donations will be used to light a huge Christmas tree on the front lawn of the Center. Students help put on the lights.

Each dollar you contribute will light one light on the tree. Why not help make it the brightest tree anywhere around. Send your contributions to "Tree Lights," c/o Mrs. Grace Justus, 225 North West Ave., Swannanoa, N. C. 28778.

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He Gave Black Mountain Its First Dial Phones

The man who converted Black Mountain's telephone exchange from a manual switchboard to a dial switching system in 1940 has retired.

C. O. "Check" Deas begins retirement this week after a 42-year telephone career with Southern Bell. He has been a mainstay in the utility's western North Carolina plant operation since 1935 according to J. D. Phillips, Asheville District Plant Manager. Deas served as service foreman at the Cherry Street work center in

Asheville at the time of his retirement.

A native of Florence, S. C., Deas joined the Bell System as an installer for Western Electric in 1924. On this assignment, he installed new telephone switching centers throughout the eastern United States until 1932 when the depression interrupted his career. He was hired by Southern Bell in 1935 and came to Swannanoa as equipment installer for Western North Carolina.

Deas had led an active roll in the civic life of the area. He has been Past Master and a director of Mt. Hermon Masonic Lodge and a member of the Black Mountain Lions Club. He has served as judge and assistant in the Mountain Youth Jamboree and the Mountain Folk Festivals for several years. Deas also has served the area as Red Cross instructor and qualified many area ambulance drivers and fireman in advanced first aid over the years.

Deas is married to the former Daisy Pope of Florence. The couple lives at 89 King Street, Asheville and are members of Trinity Episcopal Church. Their retirement plans include travel to Florida and regular square dancing with a group which meets at the Bent Creek Clubhouse.



C. O. DEAS

Tree Still Needs Lights

Contributions are still needed for the Pilots Club program of giving a nice Christmas to students at the Juvenile Evaluation Center.

Some of these children otherwise will receive nothing... not even a card from home.

In addition to buying gifts, donations will be used to light a huge Christmas tree on the front lawn of the Center. Students help put on the lights.

Each dollar you contribute will light one light on the tree. Why not help make it the brightest tree anywhere around. Send your contributions to "Tree Lights," c/o Mrs. Grace Justus, 225 North West Ave., Swannanoa, N. C. 28778.

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Concert By Owen Band And Chorus

The Owen High School Band and chorus will present a Christmas concert Monday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Edward Naylor will direct, assisted by Richard Hipps.

Jane Gilbert will be accompanist for the chorus.

A wide variety of Christmas music will be presented, and the program is expected to appeal to everyone.



HOWARD W. FOOTE

Beacon VP Moves Up

Election of Howard W. Foote, former Beacon official, as a vice president of National Distillers and Chemical Corporation was announced today by John E. Bierwirth, chairman.

Foote, formerly vice president in charge of fabric sales for Beacon Manufacturing Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of National, will be responsible for coordinating the activities of National's newly-formed textile division. Foote joined Beacon in a number of sales and merchandising posts.

Earlier this year, Foote was instrumental in negotiations which led to the acquisition of Inwood Knitting Mills, Inc. of Clifton, N.J., a major factor in the production of knitted and laminated fabrics for apparel uses. Inwood and Beacon, the nation's largest maker of blankets, and manufacturer of bedspreads, upholstery fabrics and area rugs, form the nucleus of National's textile division.