

MOUNTAIN DOIN'S

Central Office Newsletter

August 1993



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Readers' Forum

LIVE LETTERS

Let's Get Back To Basics

Isn't it time we in A.A. got back to basics? I mean, our primary purpose surely revolves around alcohol and helping other alcoholics. That's what it says. Plus, there are limitations outlined in the Traditions. And surely that tells us that our program is about alcoholism and also that we must remain anonymous as a fellowship as well as remaining uninvolved with and unconcerned with issues other than alcohol.

Yet today it seems that if you have nothing wrong with you except that you're a drunk trying to recover, you don't quite measure up to what's happening in A.A. today. If I was an alcoholic as well as an addict, gay, an over-eater, and all those other things that have latched on to the Twelve-step programs, I'd still say, at an A.A. meeting, only that I was an alcoholic.

And when it's my turn to share, I confine my remarks to the subject as it relates to my alcoholism.

I think those people who ramble on about their own problems and life experiences that have nothing to do with alcoholism are not only wasting precious meeting time, but are also defeating our primary purpose of helping each other and the still suffering alcoholic - which is really what we're supposed to be all about. -RM

Spirituality or Religion - One Reader's View

When I first got sober and into A.A. six years ago, much of what I heard at meetings made no sense. As time went by and I had two years of meetings under my belt (about one per day at that time - ninety meetings in ninety days didn't do it for me, since I was a slow learner), the fog began to clear. But I am still confused about two things. Perhaps someone smarter than I will

write a letter to the editor and clear up my confusion.

First, people always speak of "religion" and "spirituality" as though they were two distinctly different worlds, like Canada and Pakistan. I confess I don't understand this. While I understand that spirituality is broader than any one religious sect, it occurs to me that in the Western world, nearly all spiritual writers and giants have come from a religious denomination, most of them from the Roman Catholic Church (probably due simply to the fact that it has been around a few centuries longer than the others). I really don't understand the implication heard at meetings that one must make a choice between religion and spirituality. It seems to me there is a lot of overlapping between the two. I'd like to think I'm both religious and spiritual, and see no conflict whatsoever between the two. Where have I gone astray?

Second, I hear people say things like, "I don't have my father's God or my grandpa's God. I've got my own God and He (She) is different from your God." What's the deal? Is the universe run by a committee of Gods, each designed in people's own image? Not only does that make no sense to me, but for an alcoholic it seems downright dangerous. Staying sober for me depends on turning my life and will over to the care of God. That means I try to do God's will in my life and do what He (She) wants me to do, rather than what I want to do. If I "have my own God," and create Him (Her) in my own imagination, doesn't that mean in effect that I'm turning my will and my life over to myself? But that's what got me to A.A. in the first place! Is my job to conjure up some God of my own, or do I try to discover the nature of God through my own experience and in prayer and meditation. For me, it's the latter.

And while I'm, I'm on this subject, I've observed

(Live Letters continued on next page)

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Live Letters (continued from page 1)

many women getting very up-tight that God is called "He," even if that's simply because the English language has no neuter gender. If women insist on calling God "She," they might consider that the devil might be a "She" also.
 -JD



Acceptance Group

Barbara K.	7-4-91	2 years
Otis K.	7-9-91	2 years
Liz H.	7-12-92	1 year
Susan F.	7-13-92	1 year
Betty L.	7-14-91	2 years
Curry J.	7-19-79	14 years
Hazel A.	7-23-92	1 year
Jim L.	7-23-92	1 year
Bart B.	7-29-82	11 years
Alberta A.	7-30-91	2 years

Black Mountain Group

Bill G.	8-21-87	6 years
Jim F.	8-31-91	2 years
Keith W.	8-15-67	26 years

Brevard Group

Eva P.	7-30-78	15 years
Louise C.	7-15-91	2 years

Candler KISS Group

Bill R.	8-9-91	2 years
Willis S.	8-23-90	3 years
Peggy W.	8-8-92	1 year

Hendersonville Group

Maurice W.	8-1-87	6 years
Lou P.	8-24-92	1 year
Larry R.	8-27-92	1 year
Ray D.	8-21-80	13 years

Midday Group

John G.	8-19-90	3 years
Ronnie O.	8-21-92	1 year
Lou P.	8-24-92	1 year
Bill F.	8-28-87	6 years
Travis G.	8-5-89	4 years
Margie J.	8-28-91	2 years
Otis T.	8-9-83	10 years
Beth M.	8-9-88	5 years

Central Office Phone Log



"I am responsible . . .
 When anyone, anywhere,
 reaches out for help, I
 want the hand of A.A.
 always to be there.
 And, for that, I am
 responsible."

Phone Log 5-31-93 - 7-2-93

Answering Service Calls	153
General Information	4
A.A. Help	15
Family Help (Al-Anon)	14
Meeting Information	82
Central Office Business	63
Medical Herlp(Hospital, Detox, etc.)	1
Others	22
Visitors	52



Fellowship News

The Franklin Group Thursday 8 p.m. meeting has moved from Angel Community Hospital to First Presbyterian Church, 45 Church St., Franklin.

Cancellation: The No Name Group has canceled its meetings that were held at 11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 457 Louisiana Avenue, Asheville.

Reminder from the Arden Group. The Step Study closed meetings are at 8 p.m., Monday evenings, at St. Barnabas Church, Crescent Hill Drive. Some folks are mistakenly coming at 6 p.m. The current *Where and When* listing is correct.

District 70

Correctional Facilities Committee

The Correctional Facilities Committee for District 70 will have its first meeting on Sunday, September 12, 1993, at 4 p.m. at the Serenity Service Meeting Room, 107 Broadway, Asheville, N.C. All Group Correctional Facilities Representatives and anyone else who is interested in carrying the message into prison facilities are encouraged to attend.

North Carolina Mountain Central Office, Inc.

Group Contributions for the last six months of 1992/93 Fiscal Year, beginning 1-1-93 and ending 6-30-93

	Previous 6 months' totals	Current 6 months' totals	Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.
Acceptance Group	\$1,043.72	\$1,043.80	\$343.80	\$60.00	\$160.00 ⁴	\$360.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Andrews Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Arden Group	\$50.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Asheville Women's Gp*	\$0.00	\$70.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$14.00	\$26.16
Back To Basics Group	\$100.00	\$263.60	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$13.60	\$0.00
Bakersville Serenity Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Black Mountain Group	\$21.50	\$48.75	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$13.75	\$21.00
Blue Ridge Group	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bone Dry Group*	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Brevard Group	\$182.81	\$159.45	\$27.76	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$16.69	\$30.00	\$35.00
Brown Bagger's Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bryson City Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Candlelight Group*	\$0.00	\$4.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Candler KISS Group	\$90.00	\$115.00	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Canton Easy Does It Gp.	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cashiers Valley Group	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cherokee Sat. Night Gp.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clyde Sunday Night Gp.	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbus Group	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Conscious Contact Group	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cullowhee Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cumberland Avenue Group	\$120.00	\$240.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Day By Day Group	\$270.00	\$225.00	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00
Etowah Group	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00
First Step Farm Group	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fletcher Group	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Franklin Group	\$90.00	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00
Grace Group	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Green Creek Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Growing Together Group	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hayesville Group	\$0.00	\$18.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hendersonville Group	\$960.07	\$998.70	\$258.48	\$156.91	\$137.73	\$150.34	\$145.48	\$149.76
H'ville Happy Hour Gp.	\$300.00	\$270.00	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
H'ville Midday Group	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Jusr For Today Group	\$0.00	\$4.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.00	\$0.00
Lake Group	\$30.00	\$99.00	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$57.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ledger Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Leicester Group	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Live and Let Live Group	\$0.00	\$285.00	\$0.00	\$62.00	\$121.00	\$72.00	\$0.00	\$30.00
Maggie Valley Group	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marion Group	\$25.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Mars Hill Group	\$25.00	\$80.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Marshall Group	\$45.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mountain View Group	\$0.00	\$352.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$352.24	\$0.00	\$0.00
Murphy Group	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Day Group	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Hope Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

	Previous 6 months' totals	Current 6 months' totals	Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.
New Horizons Group	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
New Start Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
No Nonsense Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pathfinders Group	\$35.00	\$60.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Pine Grove Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ridgerunners Group	\$165.00	\$68.00	\$0.00	\$33.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.00
Riverside Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Robbinsville Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Roundtable Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Saluda Happy Hour Gp.	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sapphire/Lake Toxaway Gp.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Serenity Service Group	\$6.83	\$71.64	\$2.42	\$19.36	\$7.41	\$14.36	\$18.00	\$10.09
Spruce Pine Group	\$0.00	\$162.00	\$162.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sylva Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sylvan Valley Group	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Thurs. Afternoon Ladies Gp.	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Traditional Group	\$48.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tryon Group	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tryon Open Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Turning Point Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Unity Group	\$10.00	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Up The Creek Group	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$0.00
Waynesville Grace Group	\$300.00	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$137.50	\$137.50
West Asheville Group	\$210.10	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$70.00
Women's Prison Gp.(H&I)*	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Monthly Totals			\$1,379.96	\$839.77	\$1,002.36	\$1,521.13	\$941.33	\$884.51
Total previous six months	\$5,893.03							
Total current six months		\$6,569.06						
Total expenses by month			\$2,363.10	\$1,805.81	\$2,577.32	\$2,959.33	\$2,266.48	\$1,957.71
Total Income (or loss) by month			-\$206.75	\$38.09	-\$279.09	-\$532.73	-\$108.19	-\$118.03

*New Groups listed since last Six Months' Report

Notes from your Treasurer: As will be seen from this report showing Group Contributions for the six months ending 6-30-93 we have been forced to fall back on our reserve account. We started this six-month period with over \$1,500 in the reserve account and ended it with just over \$500. Our ordinary expenses have increased a small amount, as expenses do, but our payroll has increased by one third as we started keeping the office open one more hour each day. We will be discussing this at our quarterly meeting on July 25. If you are a Central Office (Intergroup) Representative or Alternate, please try to be there, we need your group represented.

Your Treasurer made an error in the last *Mountain Doin's* [July, 1993]. I reported a sale as a contribution. I

reported that "New Beginning Counseling" contributed \$74.35. I put it in the wrong column; it was a sale of literature, for \$74.35.

Give us a call!

Do you have news of a meeting change, a last-minute birthday notice, a joke, a letter you'd like to see in print but don't care to write? Group news, district news, area news? Anything you'd like to see published in *Mountain Doin's* but don't have the time to write us? Then call the Editor direct.

Dial (704)697-6031 and ask for Alan. That's the quickest way of discussing something you'd like to get into the next issue of *Mountain Doin's*.

I'll be looking for your call. Your Editor, Alan.

District 70 Financial Report

At the June meeting of the GSRs for District 70, it was agreed that we publish the financial needs of the District, along with a listing of income. We would like to be able to help our DCM and Alternate DCM with the cost of the Area Meetings they need to attend as our representatives. These meetings are in Greensboro at the Holiday Inn, and it was felt that \$150.00 each per meeting would just cover their basic costs.

There are four such meetings each year. Our DCM was unable to attend the first two meetings, and our Alternate DCM was given \$100.00 to cover expenses at one of these. We hope that both our DCM and our Alternate DCM will be able to attend the next two meetings and would like to set aside \$600.00 for this use. Add \$50.00 for telephone and \$25.00 for postage, and we have a budget of \$775.00 for 1993.

Our 1992 balance forward plus the contributions for 1993 to date – listed below – less the \$100.00 expense, total \$296.78, leaving a need for \$405.22 for the rest of 1993.

Contributions may be sent to Ralph M, Treasurer, District 70, P.O. Box 9068, Asheville, NC 28815.

This lists totals for 1993 through 07-05-93:

Group Name	Amount
Balance from 1992	10.50
Acceptance Group	50.00
Black Mountain Group	6.80
Back To Basics Group	100.00
Cumberland Avenue Group	20.00
Spruce Pine Group	55.00
Serenity Service Group	114.48
Up The Creek Group	5.00
West Asheville Group	35.00
DCM expense	<u>-100.00</u>
Balance	\$296.78



Calendar of Events

Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the General Service Office or by the North Carolina Mountain Central Office. For any additional information please use the addresses or phone numbers provided.

Mountain Serenity A.A. Retreat. At Maggie Valley, N.C., in September. For full information call Elisa, 696-9120.

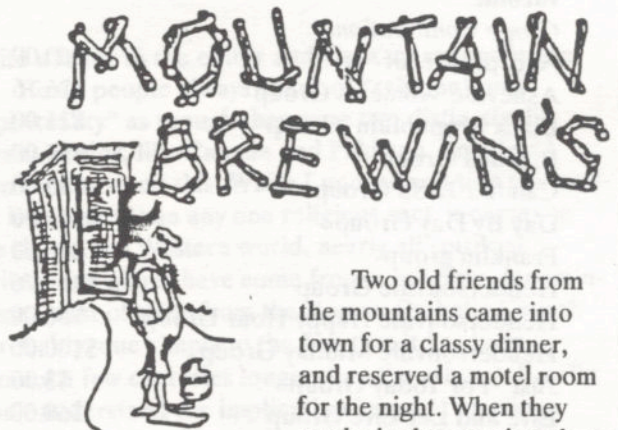
Sandlapper Roundup II. "Into Action." Special Feature – David A: *The Twelve Traditions*. December 3-5, 1993. Myrtle Beach, S.C. Also a line-up of fabulous Marathon Speakers.

Registration is \$15 per person, non-refundable. December 3, 4, and 5, at The Landmark Resort, Myrtle

Beach.

For Sandlapper Roundup information, call: (803)238-2694. Call Landmark directly for your hotel registrations: 1-800-845-0658. Special rates for Sandlapper registrants: \$34.99 oceanfront per night, \$29.99 ocean view per night.

For further information, write to Sandlapper Roundup II, Post Office Box 14634, Surfside Beach, South Carolina, 29587.



Two old friends from the mountains came into town for a classy dinner, and reserved a motel room for the night. When they awoke in the morning, they both had heavy headaches, and were amazed when they looked in the mirror to find that they were both covered in bruises, and each had a black eye.

They returned to the bar where they had spent the previous evening. The bartender greeted them with a smile.

"Well, well!" he said. "I see you fellas decided to make up!"

x x x

Alcoholic Harry went to the post office to mail a letter and saw a poster on the wall saying, "Man wanted for Post Office Robbery." So he went in and applied for the job.

x x x

A mountain apple-grower assured two New York visitors that it would be all right to hunt on his land. "But you could do me a favor, in return," he said. "You'll probably come upon a still atop yonder hill. If you do, I'd appreciate it if you'd bring me back a jugful or two."

The hunters were happy and eventually came upon the still. But as soon as they they picked up a couple of jugs, bullets started whistling over their heads. They ran down the hill and warned the mountain man, "Hey, your still is being raided!"

"Oops," said the man, "I guess I forgot to tell you. That still ain't mine!"

x x x



Treasurer's Report

N.C. Mountain Central Office, Inc.
 Financial Report for the month of June, 1993

Income

Group Contributions

Acceptance Group	\$60.00
Asheville Women's Group	\$26.16
Black Mopuntain Group	\$21.00
Brevard Group	\$35.00
Candler KISS Group	\$25.00
Day By Day Group	\$45.00
Franklin group	\$30.00
Hendersonville Group	\$149.76
Hendersonville Happy Hour Group	\$50.00
Hendersonville Midday Group	\$100.00
Just For Today Group	\$3.00
Live and Let Live Group	\$60.00
Marion Group	\$50.00
Pathfinders Group	\$10.00
Ridgerunners Group	\$35.00
Serenity Service Group	\$10.09
Waynesville Grace Group	\$137.50
West Asheville Group	\$70.00
Women's Prison group (H&I)	\$25.00
Total Group Contributions	\$942.51

Individual contributions

In Memory of David H.	\$20.00
Betty L. (anniversary)	\$30.00
Total Individual contributions	\$50.00

Sales	\$887.17
Mountain Doin's subscriptions	\$10.00
Other Income	\$0.00
Total Income	\$1,889.68
Accounts Receivable*	\$801.00

Expenses

Rent	\$101.00
Telephone	
Basic Service (Sou. Bell)	\$59.75
Toll Free Number (AT&T)	\$67.90
Answering Service	\$80.40
Payroll and Payroll Taxes	\$846.31
Cost of Mountain Doin's	
Publication and Distribution**	\$287.00
Cost of Literature and Chips Sales**	\$697.38
Postage	\$26.64
Other Expenses***	\$10.00
Total Expenses	\$2,176.38

Net Loss (Income minus expenses) (\$286.70)

Operating Account

Opening Balance	\$870.24
Net Loss	(\$286.70)
Transferred to Reserve	\$0.00
Closing Balance	\$583.54

Reserve Account

Opening Balance	\$517.40
Transferred from Operating Account	\$0.00
Interest	\$0.00
Closing Balance	\$517.40

- * Accounts Receivable: Literature which has been sold but for which your Central Office has not received payment.
- ** Includes all costs involved except coordinators' pay
- *** Includes Office Supplies and Bank Service Charges

Mountain Doin's Annual Subscriptions

AA Groups

3 copies No charge

5 Additional copies \$7.80 per year
 10 additional copies \$15.00 per year
 15 additional copies \$19.80 per year

Individual Members

Single monthly copies \$10.00 per year

Please circle which of the above you wish to receive and make out check or money order accordingly. Subscription rates are subject to change, dependent upon USPS rates.

Name _____ Gp.Reg.No _____

Street/PO Box No. _____

Town and Zip Code _____

Clip and mail with check/money order to

N.C.Mtn.Central Office
 107 Park Place Offices
 70 Woodfin Place
 Asheville NC 28801