

# MILK AND HONEY

Vol. 2, No. 10

*The Craddock Center*  
(Enriching Lives through Service)

October, 2005

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## THIS IS WHAT I ASK OF YOU

First, let me say that I think there is a relationship between my sharing the good news of a growing Endowment Fund and the recent decline in the number of gifts to our program. As you know, the Endowment Funds are not available to pay for programs; we have, on average, only about 5% of those funds for operating costs. At present that amounts to about \$20,000.00, or about 10% of our budget.

In other words, 90% of our budget comes from the gifts you send to us. Many of you continue faithfully, and for that we are grateful. Some have experienced economic reversals and we understand that. Some have thought the Endowment Fund make their gifts unnecessary, and a purpose of this article is to explain why that is not so. We need your continuing support.

Second, I wish to take this means to announce first to you our plan for a Scholarship Program for Head Start children. Our Children's Enrichment Program costs about \$140.00 per year per child. This cost covers music, dance, and storytelling, including gifts of books, CD's of their own singing, and t-shirts. A real bargain. A scholarship to the Children's Enrichment Program covers that cost.

We are asking you and all friends of the Center to provide 3-year scholarships, to be paid monthly, annually, whatever. You can phone, email, or log on to our website to pledge and we will send you written confirmation. The Scholarship Program begins Jan. 1, 2006 but I wanted to give you, as they say, "a heads up".

Please understand, those who already give regularly are not to consider this as an addition to or a substitute for your present giving. Please continue what you are doing, and we thank you.

Please also understand, if we do not receive 1200 scholarships that does not mean we will not continue to serve all 1200 of our children. We will find the necessary funds. What I am saying is that we want you to be our partners in this endeavor.

If the above paragraphs seem awkward to you, then you now know what I have known all along: I don't know what I am doing. What I do know is that what we are doing for and with the children is important and it is of God.

I am asking you to join in the satisfaction.

### WHAT A GIFT JOLIN WAS

As you know, Jolin Wilks, pastor of First Christian Church in Charlotte, NC and an artist was our guest during much of September. To be more exact, she was also the guest of Hal and Ann Doster who gave her the use of their guest cottage. To be even more exact, about 50 of her congregation were our guests for Appalachian Week-end. And welcome they were, too, seeing as how they brought money for the Center and books and children's quilts for our Children's Enrichment Program.

Back to Jolin. She came to sketch the faces of Head Start children in Fannin and Gilmer Counties, and that she did. Even the death of Jolin's grandmother and Gov. Perdue's closing school two days did not stop the project.

I was present last week at Fannin Head Start for the presentation of sketches, matted and framed, to excited and emotional parents and grandparents. A newspaper reporter was there, cameras flashed, punch and cookies were served, and a good time was had by all.

Thank you, Jolin



### SEE DEBBIE RUN

Debbie From, one of our musician/storytellers, will be running in a half-marathon (13.1 mi.) in Atlanta in late November to raise awareness and money for the Craddock Center. You can help by being present to cheer her on, by passing out brochures at the event, by spreading the word about Debbie's participation and the cause she represents. You also can make a sponsoring contribution to her effort. Make the check to The Craddock Center, marked "See Debbie Run".

Debbie is one of our newer colleagues and her enthusiasm is affecting us all. However, I will not be running. Whatever the day of the event, I have conflicts. However, I will join you in sponsoring her.



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### NEW BROCHURE ANYONE?

Thanks to Tom Gilliland and his staff we have a new brochure, delightful to look at, informative to see. Tom is Vice President and General Counsel for United Community Bank and a member of our Board.



If you would like a packet of brochures to distribute to your friends, your club or class or church, contact Tammy here at the office and she will send them to you immediately. Indicate how many you want; she's a bit too generous when on her own.

### AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Ellijay Lions Club for the use of their buildings and grounds for Appalachian Weekend. It was an excellent venue for our program.

The Craddock Center board members who hosted the Weekend.

Betsy Doty and Pam Lindsey who were present for the children.

Larry and Barbara Hansen who built the steps for the Story Express and Larry who washed the vehicle.

Bob Doty and John Garceau who readied the Story Express for use, and Bob and son Bob who handled mike control and voice amplification for the event.

Tammy Blair who cared for everything, for which I received thanks "for all my good work".

Jolin Wilks the artist who sketched children's faces not only at Fannin and Gilmer Head Starts but at Appalachian Weekend.

Our Cherokee friends who crafted, demonstrated, and conversed with us during the day.

Cherry Log Christian Church who gave us the Sunday School hour to close Appalachian Weekend with a presentation on the Western Band of Cherokee and the Cherokee Strip.

### MAKE A NOTE

An Evening of Songs and Stories with Steve Darsey and Fred Craddock will again be held at Brasstown Valley Resort in Hiawassee, GA at 8:00 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 28, 2006. There is no charge, but an offering will be taken.



The Helen Lewis Lecture for 2006 will be given in Blue Ridge, GA in the Old Court House on Friday evening, March 3. The lecturer will be Darlene Wilson of Wise, VA. The lecture is at 7:30 p.m., preceded at 7:00 with music by Laura Boosinger of Asheville, NC. Miss this and you will be kicking yourself all over the county.

### TIS A GIFT

Dr. Lou Brown and the Candl Foundation of Huntsville, Alabama, strong advocates of literacy, sent to us 1200 Phonic Whisper Phones, one for each child we reach with our Children's Enrichment Program. These simple instruments are not only fun; they improve the hearing and speaking of children in their own or in a second language. They can be used by an individual or adjusted to use with a partner. Instructional CD's came with them so that they can be used effectively not only by our musicians/storytellers but also by Head Start teachers and parents.



What an extraordinary gift to the children.

### O.K., SO I CHANGED MY MIND

What's the big deal? Haven't you ever changed your mind? Give me a break!

I announced to the 90+ ministers at the Oct. 3 semi-annual Preaching Workshop that our topic for the March 6 Workshop would likely be "What is Meant by Preaching the Word of God?" However, having looked at the calendar, in 2006 March 6 comes at the beginning of Lent, 5 days after Ash Wednesday. It seems appropriate, therefore, to deal with "Preaching the Death of Jesus."



Thanks for agreeing with the change.

### NO, I DID NOT WRITE IT

Now and then there will appear in Milk and Honey an article that is of literary quality superior to the doggerel you regularly get from me. I confess I did not write it. Truth will out. It was written by Tracy Walker, one of our new musician/storytellers. Tracy has written materials for the public for DeKalb County and the Atlanta Zoo (It was the zoo experience which commended her to us). Tracy writes our newspaper articles and contributed to the new brochure.



Persons with capacity make me nervous. We must find a reason to get rid of her. Start a rumor.

Welcome, Tracy.

THE STEP UP PROGRAM HAS STEPPED DOWN BUT NOT OUT. STAY TUNED.

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