

# Take One

April 2011

Vol. 3, Issue 3



**Camping season is... here! Time to dust off the winter and make your reservations.**

### Volunteers Needed

Don't forget us this Spring! We always need volunteer assistance, especially in the following areas:

#### - Office Help

Alta Mons is looking for volunteers to help out in the office on a regular basis, particularly on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

#### - Maintenance

Help needed for upkeep of the grounds and other maintenance needs. Contact the office if you are able to assist.

#### - Special Skills

If you have a particular skill that you think would benefit us, please give us a call.

### Online Events Calendar

Visit [www.altamons.org](http://www.altamons.org)



# CAMP POST

## Providing Space to Experience God! Notes from the Post

The ground has rested over the winter months but as the buds push up through the ground, we also must get to work. Paul Bunyan Day kicked off our major volunteer group events of the year. It is a time to work hard and prepare the grounds to be a welcoming place for all who come.

Volunteer events are also a time to gather together as a community, share in fun and fellowship while working for the ministry at Alta Mons. Consider signing up for one of

"The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy."

Isaiah 35:1-2a

the events below or becoming a regular weekly volunteer.

We look forward to seeing you here!

~Your Alta Mons Family



## Up Coming Events

### Green Up Day

Saturday, April 30, 2011 (9am-1pm)

Celebrate 'Earth Day Week' by helping "green-up" Alta Mons. This event is focused around environmental stewardship. The morning provides an opportunity for volunteering centered on being 'green' such as spreading mulch, landscaping flower beds, trash hikes, cleaning up the creek and recycling. This event includes a free lunch and is suitable for all ages.

\*Note: the talks and workshops centered on Environmental Stewardship, Christian and Spiritual Living will now be held on the March 26<sup>th</sup> event.

### Memorial Day Weekend

(Saturday, May 28-Sunday, May 29) Free events Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup>

Memorial Day Weekend, families, groups and individuals are welcome to stay at Alta Mons for a reduction in the regular rates. Saturday brings a full day of free events such as hiking, swimming, wagon rides, fishing, tour of facilities and more program activities. Meals are offered for reduced rates on Saturday, including a cook-out lunch. The day ends around the campfire with songs, stories and S'mores! This fun family weekend is an excellent opportunity to try out some of the activities offered at Summer Camp.

### Pool Opens

The Junior Olympic Size Swimming Pool opens Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend. The pool is open to the public every Saturday 10:00am-5:30pm and Sunday 1:00pm to 6:00pm cost is \$4.50 per person. At all other times the pool can be rented by groups and used for Alta Mons programs. Swimming classes are offered for children and adults.

\*Look out for our special dog swim day at the end of the season.

### Summer Camp Early Bird Discount Extended!

Campers can still receive the \$15 early bird discount if they sign up before April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Online Registration Coming Soon**

We would love to hear your thoughts and suggestions for the Newsletter or ideas about how to make services or activities better. More information about Alta Mons activities and services can be found on the web.

Alta Mons  
Year round Camp, Retreat, and RV  
Facility

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## Fond Memories of Steven Robertson

February saw the tragic loss of Steven Robertson, age 16. Steven, the son of Leslie Robertson, our Kitchen Manager and housekeeper at Alta Mons. We have the pleasure of Leslie and her family living on site at Alta Mons.

Steven brought such a joy to all who knew him with his love of music, kind nature and incredible artistic talent. The staff have fond memories of Steven being dropped off by the school bus everyday and walking home the rest of the distance hauling his guitar that he took to school on a daily basis. If we opened the windows and listened hard enough we could hear Steven practice on his guitar as the sound floated out of his bedroom window. Steven was a talented self-taught musician, playing the guitar and banjo. He was always present at any music event that we ran at Alta Mons, soaking it all in and learning from it.

Another fond staff memory was Steven's love for his Chihuahua Angel. We could always see Steven out and about walking Angel around Alta Mons. Steven loved to hike the grounds and probably spent more time discovering the trails than anybody else. He will be sadly missed by us all.



Sunday marked the one month anniversary of Steven and Grayson going to be with the Lord. To mark this occasion, the Future Business Leaders of America of Eastern Montgomery High School wanted to put on an event that the whole community of students, families of Steven and Grayson and locals from the Shawsville and Elliston area to attend. The students, teachers and staff at Alta Mons worked together to make this day a special occasion and a time of healing for all who came. The weather was perfect for the scheduled 2pm hike where around 100 people gathered together to take the hike to Styles Falls. It was wonderful to see so many make the trek to the waterfalls. They were rewarded when they reached the top by the beautiful views and music being played for them. The hike was followed by a dedication service of a special garden planted in memory of Steven and Grayson. The garden has seven young apple trees planted in a circle and will grow into a wonderful space for people to come visit.

The trees were planted by staff and students of Roanoke College Environmental Science Class as part of a project to plant heritage orchards at Alta Mons. The service gave a chance to share special memories of Steven and Grayson, to remind us to make our lives fruitful and depend on the One who created us. All were invited to spread mulch around the newly planted trees. Throughout the day Steven's art work was displayed for all to visit and music by students, and local bands played for all to enjoy. This special celebration day ended with a hot dog supper, with food generously donated by many local restaurants and grocery stores, with singing, dancing, picking and playing! A wonderful way to celebrate and remember the lives of two very special young people.



***If you would like to receive this newsletter by email,  
call the office on (540) 268 2409 or email  
office@altamons.org***