

## Shrine Mont Annual Report – January 2017

Shrine Mont hosted over 13,000 guests and 900 campers and staff during the 2016 season.

Some highlights from 2016:

- 83 parishes from the Diocese held retreats parish wide, for youth, men, women, young adults and confirmations.
- Over 400 Diocese of Virginia middle and high school students participated in Parish Youth Ministry weekends.
- Bishop Shannon hosted the Annual Spring Conference for Clergy, Lay Professionals and their Spouses in May and The Annual Fall Clergy Retreat in October.
- Shrine Mont hosted a clergy conference for the Lutheran and Episcopal clergy from Virginia
- Shrine Mont hosted a retreat for the Deacons of the Diocese of Virginia
- Shrine Mont hosted a number of nonprofit conferences including a new gathering for those in recovery from addiction.
- 125 volunteers attended our Annual Work Weekend providing Shrine Mont an invaluable service in preparing to open for the season.
- 12 parishes from outside the diocese held retreats at Shrine Mont.
- Shrine Mont hosted the following programs: Women's Retreat, Writing Retreat, Painting Creation Workshop, Boomer Camp (summer camp for adults), Arranging for the Joy of It, Walking the Labyrinth Retreat, two Digital Photography Workshops, and a Hike & Bike. A new retreat called Christ Walk was added this year
- The annual Bishop's Jubilee was held the weekend of July 2-5.
- The Gourmet Dinner and Wine Tasting sold out and was a success at raising funds for Shrine Mont.
- The Rev. Michael Cadaret joined us in celebrating the 91<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Consecration of the Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration on August 6.
- 60+ golfers joined Bishop Jones for the Tee with the Bishop Golf Tournament, which raised in excess of \$16,000 for Shrine Mont.
- St. Stephen's & St. Agnes cross country team came to Shrine Mont for pre-season training. St. Stephens & St. Agnes also brought their senior class for its annual retreat.
- The Shenandoah Valley Music Festival held its 54<sup>th</sup> season with nearly 6,000 attendees. This year Shrine Mont and the SVMF partnered to sell packages with concert tickets and overnight accommodations. Thirty two people took advantage of this offer
- More than 20 art groups met for workshops and retreats.
- The marching bands from Oakton and Thomas Jefferson High Schools returned for their annual band camps in August as did the Fall Church High School Band Alumni.
- Community partnerships included hosting the West Shenandoah Ruritan Club and the Shenandoah County Sheriff's Department Leadership Camp.
- Shrine Mont hosted the Broadway High School football camp.

Shrine Mont added new parish retreats and events to our calendar including:

- Abingdon, Ware and Kingston parishes joined together for a combined parish retreat. We welcomed back Christ Church and Church of Our Savior from Charlottesville. A number of new families came to Shrine Mont for reunions in 2016 as did numerous women's, creative arts, and personal retreats.
- The Cathedral Shrine hosted a wedding, six baptismal services, and one confirmation.

Giving to Shrine Mont continues to grow both in annual donations to support our operations and for major projects. In 2016 annual giving surpassed 7% of Shrine Mont's operating budget. As a result, Shrine Mont rates continue to be held steady for double occupancy and only slightly increased in other areas. Shrine Mont has also received very generous gifts to support a complete renovation of Meade Cottage and an endowment for Meade's continued care. In early 2017 Shrine Mont received a \$100,000 gift to go to the Shrine Mont endowment for maintaining and/or establishing gardens at the Shrine Mont or alternatively for any land or forest management expenses associated with the Thousand Acre Woods.

The Shrine Mont Camp facilities were renovated as part of the Shout It From the Mountain campaign. All the camp cabins were updated, new latrines were built at St. George's and a new staff house was built at Bear Wallow. The resulting improvements made the camps better and safer for campers and staff.

On June 4 Bishop Shannon was joined by Bishop Ted and Bishop David Jones and a number of friends and donors to rededicate the newly renovated Shrine Mont camp sites and celebrate the success of the Shout It from the Mountain campaign. This wonderful event was coordinated by a tremendous group of people including Mary Beth Abplanalp, Colleen Hopkins, Pete Nunnally, Mitzi van der Veer, Anne Wilkins and Abby Young. The event was sponsored by Bay Trust Bank, Farmers and Merchants Bank and Trio Fasteners, Inc.

To date the Shout It From the Mountain campaign has raised over \$2,453,000 towards the \$2.5 million stretch goal with the expectation that the goal will be met in early 2017. For more information about the campaign visit [www.shoutitfromthemountain.org](http://www.shoutitfromthemountain.org)

In 2017 Shrine Mont will undertake the following projects in addition to the normal repairs and upkeep of the property:

- A complete renovation of Meade Cottage
- Replace bathroom floors in the Maryland House
- Replace plumbing in the Pennsylvania House
- Make improvements to Warner Cottage

Other Shrine Mont news

- Shrine Mont completely updated its website, [www.shrinemont.com](http://www.shrinemont.com).
- In 2016 Gary Shook of St. James, Warrenton joined the Shrine Mont board of directors
- At the end of 2016 Kathleen Hobson stepped down from Shrine Mont's board of directors having fulfilled two terms. We are deeply appreciative to Kathleen for her leadership and commitment to Shrine Mont

Shrine Mont would like to thank the Shrine Mont Board of Directors, the diocesan staff, our Shrine Mont Staff and all of our guests and donors for their hard work and efforts to continue to make Shrine Mont "*A place apart.*"

We are looking forward to another great season in 2017 and hope that every member of the Diocese will spend some time with us.

Submitted by:

Kevin Moomaw, Executive Director