



# The Mt. Tron Mail

April 1998

Mt. Tron University of Peace Foundation

No. 1, Volume 1

## Welcome to “Shantibu” on Mt. Tron!

During the coming summer, friends and associates are invited to visit “Shantibu” on Mt. Tron, Alvdal, Norway, to meet Swami Paramananda from India. He arrives at the

end of July and will be here for three months. This will be Swami Paramananda's fourth visit to “Shantibu” since 1990. As in 1995, there will be “Art of Life/ Art of Living courses (in English) held during his stay. The actual dates and times will be announced later. Otherwise, an open forum will be held as usual, with the opportunity to ask the Swami questions. Many visitors

from Norway and other countries are expected to participate. Over the space of a few sunny weeks in August 1995, people of ten different nationalities gathered here. On some occasions, we had up to twenty

dinner guests. To meet the practical needs of such gatherings, during May and June various excavation and construction work will be carried out. Among other things, a new sewerage system will be installed, and a new log cabin for Swami Paramananda is already under construction. Some internal changes in the main house will also be made, together with the addition of a veranda. We hope to be completely finished by the middle of July. Swami Paramananda is a great

source of inspiration to the work of realising the University of Peace, passing on the spiritual heritage which Swami Sri Ananda Acharya laid the foundations for here on Mt. Tron.



“Shantibu” on Mt. Tron in Alvdal, Norway, with a bust of Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. From left: Bjørn, Swami Paramananda and Triptima. Photo: VG, August 1995.

“The living faith in the dead becomes the dead faith in the living - this is the true definition of dogma”

Swami Sri Ananda Acharya

“The world doesn't need more religion - we need  
Humanity!”

Swami Paramananda

## Welcome to our Newsletter!

**Finally**, our long-awaited newsletter has arrived! "The Mt.Tron Mail" was the first name that came to the editor's mind and remains, we think, the most appropriate - a simple, straightforward title, as the contents are intended to be.

"**The Mt.Tron Mail**" is intended to be an informal medium, for the announcement of arrangements and activities, together with examples of the philosophy which underpins our work on the realisation of the University. For those who wish to know more about how we think regarding the University of Peace, should read this newsletter! We hope that our friends and associates will find the inspiration and information they need about the University here.

**We plan** to publish "The Mt.Tron Mail" quarterly, which requires funding and therefore the payment of subscriptions. In addition to covering production costs, your subscription will also go towards work for the University. The need for a sound economic base for the Foundation's office, where tasks and activities are rapidly increasing, is apparent. Several different publications are in the pipeline.

**Support us NOW!** This is the most critical phase, in which most support is needed. We are totally dependant on your support, to enable us to keep the public and

relevant parties informed, who in turn will help to promote understanding of the project and help to carry it through. It is of the greatest importance for the continuance of this project that everyone who backs it does this both morally *and* financially.

**"The Mt.Tron Mail" is intended to inform about the work being done to realise the Mt.Tron University of Peace. It will keep people updated about the plans and development of the project. At the same time, it will hopefully strengthen engagement, communication and fellowship between interested parties.**

"**The Mt.Tron Mail**" subscription is our first attempt to build-up an economic base for our activities. As a subscriber, you will receive an incentive and up-to-date information about the development of the project, and we will have an encouragement and means to be able to continue to work further. In this way we will be able to help each other! It will also be of great help if each and everyone helps to spread the newsletter to friends and other interested persons.

**Your subscription** will help to fund the construction of Swami Paramananda's cabin, which is being erected at "Shantibu" in May. The roof, floor and installations will be finished in July. We look forward to the Swami finally having a place to retreat to whilst he stays with us at "Shantibu". At other times, the cabin will be used for meditation by genuine peace seekers.

**In the next** edition of "The Mt.Tron Mail", we will go into more detail about the "Art of Life/ Art of Living" courses, including dates.

## Visit our Home Pages on the Net!

**Our building plans** for the University of Peace are now online and thus accessible to an enormous number of people all over the globe. Internet is undoubtedly the world's biggest medium, with roughly 100 million users.

**Norway tops** the world when it comes to surfing on the Net. Today the Net is comprised of 320 million pages and can be considered as one huge encyclopedia, with 15 billion words! It is also possible to send e-mail (i.e. electronic) and to participate in discussion groups. Direct contact with other Net users over unlimited distances, through so-called "chat programs" at the price of a local telephone call, is another service this mass-communication tool of the future offers.

<http://home.sol.no/~bjpetter>

**Our Home Pages** were programmed on the PC at "Shantibu" in January, February, and March this year and transferred to the Net on March 29th. Today, they are accessible to most of the larger search engines on the Net, and work continues to improve access for Netsurfers.

**The Foundation's** 11 home pages constitute approximately 10 megabytes and create in words and pictures a brief but clear presentation of work done on the project so far. The history, locality, basic concept and building plans with elevations are included. It is possible to send e-mail directly from the home pages to the Foundation.

*Our address is:* **fredsuni@online.no**

**We invite** all with access to Internet to a visit!

## What's happening on Mt.Tron?



*Mt.Tron at Easter 1998, with the Glåma River in the foreground, as seen from the Aukrust Centre in Alvdal. Photo: BP.*

### **Subdivision**

Last Autumn, Alvdal council took action to decide ownership of and rights to Mt.Tron and Mt.Tron road. This occurred in connection with the council's revision of its plans and zoning of the area. It has been unclear for a long time as to who is in possession of this region and the rights that belong to it. According to our understanding of the situation, there has never been a subdivision commission on Mt.Tron, as has occurred in other areas in the district of Alvdal.

The Mt.Tron University of Peace Foundation is a party in the case, with the possession of the monument which stands on "Flat-Tron" ("Peace Plateau"), 1,300 metres over sea level. The 4 metre high stone monument, which was erected in 1977, is both a memorial to Swami Sri Ananda Acharya and a foundation stone for the peace university he wished to see raised there. It is in the interests of all parties that the legal aspects of the case are now resolved for future use of the area.

At the end of March, the Foundation sent copies of all relevant documents in the case to the appropriate authorities. The usual waiting time before a case comes up is approximately 2 years, but over the telephone we have been informed that a possible decision may be made by Christmas 1998.

### **Radar station on the peak of Mt.Tron**

The Aviation Authority announced to the press on February 9th. this year, that they were considering construction of a radar station on Mt.Tron, instead of Mt.Hummel in Os. At the beginning of April, planning

had already begun. The radar station will consist of a 30 metre high tower, including a dome. By comparison, the existing television tower of Norwegian Broadcasting, some hundred metres to the west of the planned site, is 50 metres high. This television tower was constructed in 1960, and the Mt.Tron road was built by the Gjermundshaug brothers over a two month period during the summer of 1959.

The civil radar station will cover aviation over the entire south of Norway and has a planned budget of 26 million kroner. The building itself will take up approximately 100 square metres, and is estimated to cost 6 million kroner. The planned construction date is the coming summer and they expect to be in full-operation by December, 1999. Alvdal council has taken a positive stand in the case.

### **Maintenance of the Mt.Tron road**

Norwegian Broadcasting and the contracting firm of "Jan Inge Gjermundshaug", entered into a 10 year contract at the end of March, to maintain the road to Tron. The cost of keeping the road open is estimated at between 75,000 - 100,000 kroner per year.

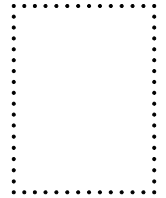
### **Possible consequences for the University's plans**

The Aviation Authority's plans are expected to speed up the subdivision process, and therefore the council's plans and zoning. Together with the work on Tron, this should increase the possibility of acquiring a building site on "Flat-Tron" ("Peace Plateau"). The Foundation is proceeding with planning and information.

# The Mt.Tron Mail

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**To:**

## The Mt.Tron Mail

**The Mt.Tron Mail** is a newsletter for those interested in the establishing of the Mt.Tron University of Peace

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## The Status of the University of Peace

The University of Peace will not first of all be a physical building, but a room of the heart! Without heart there is no room!

- The University of Peace is a project being planned by the Mt.Tron University of Peace Foundation.
- The first goal is to acquire a building site on "Flat-Tron" in Alvdal, and then to start building and running the University of Peace.
- The Alvdal council resolved to draw up a plan for the Tron region on October 12, 1995, in which the Foundation's plans for a university of peace on "Flat-Tron" were taken into account. This has not yet been carried out, but may be done in the autumn.
- The Foundation can begin to collect donations after building permission has been granted, but in the meantime work continues with the plans.



*The Monument on Mt.Tron, which is the foundation stone of the University. Photo: BP, June 1993.*