

Reflections

Winter 2001, Volume VII, Issue I

A Message from the President & Editor:

Hope to see you at our next board meeting, February 12, 2001 @ 5:15 PM in the Wayne County Museum. We hope to hear a report on the status of the Museum Exhibit arrangement. We have been waiting on a call from an exhibit designer that has move from Tennessee to Raleigh. We also hope to hear our direction for the writing of a "History of Wayne County" and time-line that will be put up at the museum.

Events Calendar:

- January 25: Business After Hours, Comfort Inn Suites, 5:30-7:30 PM
January 27: Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society at the Western Sizzlin, 11:30 AM
January 30: Tasker Polk, Concert Artist, Piano Recital at Mount Olive College, 7:30 PM
February 1: Black History Month Exhibit opens at the Wayne County Museum, 12:00-4:00 PM
February 2: "Love of Dance," Goldsboro Ballet at the Walnut Creek CC, 7:00 PM
February 8: Black History Month Lecture at Mount Olive College, 11:00 AM
February 9-11: NC Swimming Age Group Championship Qualifying Meet at the YMCA
February 12: Friends of the Park, M.O. Town Hall, 2:00 PM
February 12: WCHA Board Meeting at the Wayne County Museum, 5:15 PM
February 13: NCPF Committee Meeting- OWC Board Meeting, 5:00 PM
February 14: Valentine's Day
February 15-18: "No Time for Sergeants," Center Stage Theatre at the Paramount, 8:00 PM
February 19: President's Day, Federal Holiday
February 22: Film Event, Mount Olive College, 7:00 PM
February 24: "African-Americans in the Military: Revolutionary to Present," Symposium- Dr. Michael Brennan, Wayne County Museum, 3:00 PM
February 24: Black History Day, Mount Olive College
February 24: M.O.H.S., Apts. Open House, Mount Olive
February 24-March 23: 22nd National Juried Fined Arts Exhibition at the Herman Park Center
March 3: Centennial Celebration for Eureka
March 3: De-Rail-Bratton Pageant
March 12: Friends of the Park, M.O. Town Hall
March 12: WCHA Board Meeting at the Wayne County Museum, 5:15 PM
March 13: NCPF Committee Meeting- OWC Board Meeting, 5:00 PM
March 21: Spring Begins
March-April: Railroad Exhibit Opening, Wayne County Museum (TBA)
April 8: Passover
April 9: Friends of the Park, M.O. Town Hall
April 9: WCHA Board Meeting at the Wayne County Museum, 5:15 PM
April 10: NCPF Committee Meeting- OWC Board Meeting, 5:00 PM
April 15: Easter
April 16: Federal Holiday
April 26: NCPF Golf Classic, Southern Wayne CC
April 26: NC Symphony for 4th Graders, Mount Olive College
April 27: NCPF Concert, Mount Olive Airport
April 28: NCPF, Mount Olive- All Day
April 28: Old Dobbs Genealogical Society, Western Sizzlin, 11:30 AM
April 29: NCPF Worship Service

April 29: Kids World Playground Dedication, Mount Olive

May 5: Waynesborough Festival

May 12: Wayne County Museum Yard Sale (TBA)

The Wayne County Museum:

November came and went, and with it our last exhibit on Veteran's Day. Dr. Michael Brennan, local military history collector, displayed and commented on military history from the Revolutionary period to present to guests who visited the museum on November 11, 2000. The turnout was excellent. Dr. Brennan will be back on February 24, 2001, at 3:00 p.m. for a symposium on "African-Americans in the Military," during Black History Month.

Come join us at the Museum for the "Toy's from Christmas Past" Exhibit running through December 2000. We have a nice collection of toys that range in time from 1910-1959. Such notable collectors that are participating in this exhibit are Mr. Jim Geary from Rosewood. His toy Studebaker collection is well-known through the ranks of Studebaker fans across America. Mr. Geary's collection was featured in *Our State* magazine.

In January, if you missed it, we will be exhibiting Goldsboro and Wayne County during the 1920-1930's. We have various items, including those from the original Hotel Goldsboro and Hotel Kennon. Our primary hours of operation are Tuesdays and Thursdays 12-4, and Saturdays 10-4. The museum may be open at other times, please call ahead (919) 734-5023.

Birthday party or wedding reception, don't have a place to hold your special occasion, please contact the Wayne County Museum. We have a ballroom that will comfortably accommodate 175 guests and accessible kitchen with old-fashioned dumb-waiter.

The Wayne County Museum would like to thank everyone who has volunteered his or her time and effort to keep the museum running strong. The museum needs your support!

Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace:

In December, the site hosted the annual Christmas Candlelight Tours. On Tuesday, December 5, we had 350 visitors and on Thursday, December 7, six hundred attended. The Primitive Baptist Singers performed in the auditorium, shadow plays were held in the schoolhouse, and visitors toured the home. They also received warm apple cider as a treat from the cold.

During the following week, inmates from the Neuse Correctional Center painted the interior of the one-room schoolhouse. After a paint analysis was completed in June to determine the original color, we ordered the paint and completed the project. The interior is now a very bright blue. We hope to fabricate a reproduction of a 19th century school teacher's desk. This will complete the restoration.

In January, the site and Wayne Community College will host the symposium, "**Charles B. Aycock's North Carolina: Politics, Education and Race Relations in the Progressive Era.**" The centennial of Aycock's inauguration serves as the perfect catalyst for a program to discuss prominent issues in Aycock's time that still affect us today. Learn how this was a time of progress for education but a reversal in African-American civil rights. Four noted scholars will make the following presentations: Dr. William Link (UNC-G), *The Paradoxes of Southern Reform: The Case of North Carolina*; Dr. Jeffrey Crow (Division of Archives and History), *The North Carolina Partisan Press in the 1890's*; Dr. James Leloudis (UNC), *Public Education and the Making of a New North Carolina*; and Dr. John Haley (UNC-W), *Reckoning with Race: The Progressive Paradox*. These will be held at Wayne Community College.

The symposium will not only have presenters. Friday's agenda will include a short presentation, *In the Words of Charles B. Aycock*. Ray Brannon, Wayne Community College will portray Charles B. Aycock and Jo Ann Williford, Division of Archives and History will narrate. On Saturday morning, participants will tour the boyhood home of Aycock, attend a school marm presentation as well as be treated to a continental breakfast.

All participants must complete a registration form and sent it in by January 10. The symposium is free except for meals. Meals are optional and the cost is \$10.00 for Friday and \$9.00 for Saturday. For more information, call 242-5581.

Charlotte Brow

Old Waynesborough Commission:

State prisoners have completed taking down the Hatch house in Dudley and the destruction from termites was obvious as the outer and inner boards were removed exposing the destruction of the structure which made the house un-movable. Many good pieces will be utilized as we use the frame of the old ranger house to look like an 1840 era building which will become the Don Hatch Memorial Waynesborough Museum. This museum will focus on the period of 1702-1865. It was in 65' that General Sherman's troops burned the last five remaining buildings at Waynesborough. Artifacts from that period will be sought as well as documented history which can be displayed. We intend to make it an interesting and hands on place for children as well have an operational Wilmington to Weldon train, stocks for containment, a jail, Indian grinding stone, etc. All donations of that period will be accepted and your name and item will be noted on lists in the new museum.

Any individuals that would like to work 3 hours a week in the construction of the museum should contact the center at 739-9989.

We are still trying to find information on the house on the Smith Auto property in Mount Olive. This building was originally in Seven Springs. We need some history prior to moving it. We will be moving the 1798 Best farm house as soon as the movers can fit us in.

Put May 5, 2000 on your calendar as that is the date of our annual Festival.

Our Commission is back to monthly meetings at 5 PM on the second Tuesday of each month.

Mount Olive Area Historical Society:

The Board met January 19, at 2:00 PM at the Town Hall to consider the office of the two-story Queen-Anne frame house at E. Main St, c. 1900 for a museum. The Board decided they would accept Aaron Long's offer to the Mount Olive Area Historical Society for use as a museum. The Board will be getting a professional estimate as to the cost of getting the house in shape for the use as a museum. After this estimate they will get others involved as to the raising of funds to put the house in shape for a museum. More on this later.

Look for information for the meeting in April and the May Annual Dinner.

The Society will have more information in the next news letter.

Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society:

Greetings from the President-

By the time you receive this, Christmas will have come and gone. I sincerely hope each of you had a wonderful holiday and that the new year will be full of blessings.

Our next meeting will be held at the Western Sizzlin Restaurant at 11:30 AM on Saturday, January 27, 2001. Our speaker will be Timothy Rackley. His presentation will be "Don't Forget Your P's and Q's," regarding the various types of information contained in Minutes of the Court Records (Pleas & Quarter Sessions) held at the county level. Mr. Rackley was given the "Award for Excellence in Publishing" by the N.C. Genealogical Society in 1998 for his works which include Nash and Granville County abstractions. We hope you will all make an effort to attend.

At the January meeting we will appoint a nominating committee to nominate officers who will be elected at our April 2001 meeting to serve a two year term. Anyone who wishes to serve on the nominating committee should let me know by the middle of January.

Best Wishes for the New Year.

Tom Brown, Pres.

Fremont Historical Society:

The newly formed Fremont Historical Society completed its successful three months Charter membership drive on December 31, 2000. Although the Charter Drive has ended, regular memberships are still available for 2001 in these three categories: **Individual \$10.00, Family \$15.00, Student (To ages 22) \$5.00.**

Information brochures with membership forms are available at various Fremont and other Northern Wayne County businesses, at the Wayne County Museum, or by writing the Fremont Historical Society, PO Box 61, Fremont, NC 27830.

The Fremont Historical Society's Heritage Museum was dedicated on Sunday afternoon, November 5, 2000. Following the dedication ceremony and ribbon cutting, guests were invited inside the new museum for a tour and refreshments.

Fremont Heritage Museum, which is located at 112 E. Main St., is open to the public each Sunday afternoon from 2:00 until 5:00.

Wayne County Historical Association

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Some New Year's Wishes For You

During the new year may you have:

Enough happiness to keep you sweet.

Enough trials to keep you strong.

Enough hope to keep you happy.

Enough failure to keep you humble.

Enough success to keep you eager.

Enough friends to give you comfort.

Enough wealth to meet your needs.

Enough enthusiasm to make you look forward to tomorrow.

Enough determination to make each day better than the day before.

The Last Word from the Editor:

The Wayne County Museum is in need of volunteers. In an effort to assist growth in tourism in Wayne County it has been suggested that the museum be open more during the week. Volunteers are needed anytime between 9-5 during the week and 12-5 on Sundays. People are needed as greeters, and you can have an opportunity to be part of great things to come and a preserver of the past. Call 734-5023, if no one answers please leave a message and a number so we can get back with you, or simply e-mail us at museum@esn.net.

It's the beginning of a new year and with it great plans and future events sponsored by the WCHA. The Wayne County Museum is in need of renovations, updating of the bathrooms for handicapped accessibility and an elevator to expand and grow the museum's possibilities for traveling exhibits and fund-raising events.

Wayne County has a great heritage to preserve, and to show citizens of this great County how we lived in the past and what made us what we are.

Please help us! We will get more participation from the people of Wayne County if we show them what we want to do.

It would be incredible to display professionally the history of Wayne County: the Battle of Goldsborough Bridge, Downtown Goldsboro, the early years, the USO, the Woman's Club, the Wilmington and Weldon RR, Goldsboro's Rich Architecture, and much more. And would'nt be great to get something here like the Antique Roadshow, its possible!

We need your help, and especially money to get this idea going and for all the citizens of Wayne County to be proud of their community.

Stay Tuned.

For future component reports in the Newsletter please e-mail all events and news to museum@esn.net. **Look for upcoming changes in our next news letter!**