

REFLECTIONS

Newsletter of the Wayne County Historical Association

....bringing our past to the present.....

www.waynecountyhistoricalnc.org



Museum Events 2011

From the President

Exhibits

Present—1 August

“Civil War:
Troops and Hoops”

9 August—21 October

“Memory Lane:
Wayne County 1880-1950s”

Speakers

Stacy Jones

“The Goldsboro Rifles”
Talk and Book Signing
July 5 at 7:00 PM

Brenda McKeon

“Blood and War at My Doorstep”
Talk and Book Signing
Saturday, July 9 at 1:00 PM

Charles Gaylor

Slide Presentation
“The Golden Days of Goldsborough”
August 23 at 7:00 pm
And October 8 at 1:00 pm

Special Event

Cemetery Walk
October 16 at 2:00PM

Upcoming Membership Meetings

July 12 at 6:00 PM

We are continually scheduling speakers and events, so please check with the museum for updates. For more details call the museum at;

(919) 734-5023

Or check our website:
Waynecountyhistoricalnc.org

Hello everyone! My name is Leigh Strickland and I am the new president of the Wayne County Historical Association. For those of you who may not know me, I am the manager of the Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace State Historic Site. I am on the board of the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies and the Fremont Historical Society. I am also a member of the Fremont Rotary Club.

On behalf of the Association, I would like to thank Jane Rustin for her service as past-president. She has done an outstanding job, leaving me with big shoes to fill! I also appreciate her continuing support as I pick up the mantle. Recently, attendance to the general membership meetings has been down somewhat. We will be looking at different options to increase membership participation. For the time being, membership meetings will continue to be held on the 2nd Tuesday of every other month, BUT the meeting time will be 6:00 pm instead of 7:00pm.

I am excited about the programs, exhibits and speakers that Terry and Chris have planned for the museum! I am also excited about Emily Weil’s new book **People and Plantations** which should be available in late summer/early fall.

I look forward to working with Terry, Chris, the Wayne County Association Board and its members! If there is something you would like to see at the museum or if you have an idea for a program or speaker, please let us know.

Leigh V. Strickland

Congratulations to the new Officers of the Wayne County Historical Association! County Commissioner Andy Anderson swears in the officers at the March membership meeting: President – Leigh Strickland; co - 2nd Vice-presidents – Nancy Delia and Emily Weil; Secretary – Maegen Wilson; 3rd Vice-president – Steve Bryan; Treasurer – Arnold Flowers; 1st Vice-president; Elliott Futrell (not pictured)



What's been happening down at the Museum

Woohoo — the dog days of summer are here! It has been very busy at the museum as we ended the Black History exhibit on Civil Rights and opened up our Civil War exhibit, "Troops and Hoops"

Our lead off speaker was a familiar face in Jewel Sauls. Dressed beautifully in period clothing, her insights on the home-front of that period were very interesting and the music was quite rousing. She was followed by a long list of speakers and authors. In two instances our speakers, Drs Peacock and Beck, were sponsored by the North Carolina Humanities Council Road Scholar program (pictured at the bottom of the page). As a lead in to Dr Beck's talk, WCHA member Tom Bailey made some delicious apple cobbler ala mode. Many thanks to Tom for tickling our taste buds. The talks continue into July, please check the front page for details.

As you may remember, an ad-hoc Committee was established to help shape the future of the museum by further defining what its focus should be. There is not space, time nor resources to collect all of our community's history. In the meeting we discussed the limitations of the museum, combined with venues that are already in existence and then looked at what need was not being addressed. It was felt that the historic architecture of Wayne County was disappearing, some with no record. In this vein, not only could the museum serve as a repository for photos, but for stories about these structures as well. Furthermore, the Civil War and the history of the railroad would continue to be of focus. If you have any thoughts on this matter, or would like to see us consider a different direction, please contact Terry at the museum.

Donations: We have been very fortunate this period, receiving a donation that will allow us to buy a piano dolly, extending the life of our piano, while minimizing the maintenance costs. Additionally, JoAnne Guthrie has joined the ranks of our volunteers helping us in the administrative department. She has also donated the lovely flowers in the urns at the front of the museum.

Best to all this summer!
~ The Museum Staff



Above: Conway Rose at the Antiques Road Show; Below: Jewel Sauls kicks off the Civil War Exhibit



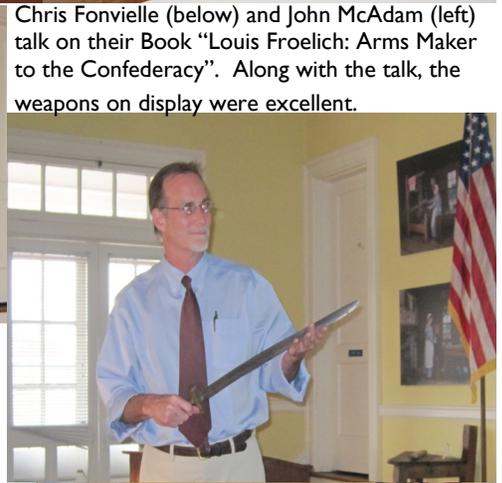
Chris and Anna Lawson wave the colors at the Old Timey Days in Seven Springs - Thanks Anna for helping out!



Below: Woody McDonnell performs songs of springtime



Below: Dr Peacock talks on the enigmatic Confederate General, James Longstreet; Below right: Dr Beck talks about southern cuisine. Both speakers were courtesy of the North Carolina Humanities Council Road Scholar Program.



Symbolism in Cemeteries



As many of you know, Kirk Keller and Stacy Jones conducted a cemetery tour, focusing on one of the oldest sections of Willow Dale cemetery. Life stories and character accounts from Dr Bryson Bate-man and Kerry Thompson added greatly to the event. Another aspect of cemeteries, particularly ones with Victorian era graves in them, is the symbolism on the gravestones or memorials. Following Queen Victoria's example after the death of Prince Albert in 1861, it became customary for families to go through elaborate rituals to commemorate their dead. This included, among other activities, wearing mourning clothes, and erecting an ornate monument on the grave. The Victorians took symbolism very seriously, almost every form of monument in a Victorian Cemetery represents something relevant

to the deceased and their family. These rituals were carried across the ocean to our shores and in part influenced the symbolism in our cemeteries. As you wander through a cemetery you will see many of motifs on gravestones. In addition to asking the question, "What does this symbol mean?" it is important to remember that a particular motif may appear just because someone liked it. The workmanship and beauty of the gravestones and the sculptures found in cemeteries are art; in many places it was the first art available to the public. The following are some commonly encountered

symbols found in Willow Dale Cemetery (pictured starting from the right, then alternating across the page):



Dove - An important symbolic animal in Christianity representing the Holy Spirit.

Circle - The circle is pre-Christian and its original symbolic meaning has been adopted by Christianity. It is universally known as the symbol of eternity and never-ending existence. Extremely common on grave sites, its usual representation is a cross surrounded by circle.

Hand pointing upward - the reward of the righteous, confirmation of life after death. Heavenly reward, ascension to heaven.

Celtic Cross - The circle around the crosspiece symbolizes eternity. It's origin can be traced to the Celtic cultures of the British Isles. There is a legend of how St. Patrick when preaching to some soon to be converted heathens was shown a sacred standing stone that was marked with a circle that was symbolic of the moon goddess. Patrick made the mark of a Latin cross through the circle and blessed the stone making the first Celtic Cross.



Masonic Symbol—notice this symbol of group affiliation on the picture to the right—

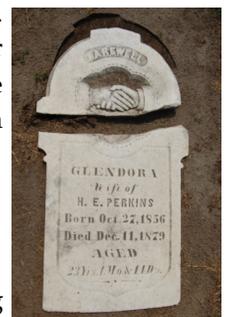
Urn - Greek symbol of mourning, the body as a vessel of the soul, originating as a repository for the ashes of the dead in ancient times - a popular symbol of mourning. They are often draped with a cloth or festooned with a wreath or garland.

Clasped Hands — This could be the depiction of a man holding a woman's hand and indicate marriage or a close bond between individuals, unity and affection even after death. Clasped hands are also symbolic of a farewell or last good-bye. You can Look at the cuff to distinguish between a man's or woman's hand — in this case the man's is on the right, the woman's on the left. Notice also this picture is of a broken head stone. Unfortunately, the cemetery has several stones that have broken or fallen from their pedestal. These stones are but one example of the work that needs to be done in the cemetery. Kirk is investigating ways to restore the cemetery; if you are interested in helping with this project please contact the museum for more information.



Due to popular demand a second cemetery tour has been scheduled for October — Come join us!

Information taken from: Oregon.gov and vintageviews.org



Publications for Sale

Quantity

Title and Price

_____	<i>Cornwallis' Campaign: Wilmington to Yorktown</i> —by Emily Weil—\$25.00
_____	<i>After Sherman's March: Goldsboro at the End of the Civil War</i> —by Emily Weil—\$25.00
_____	<i>Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina: An Architectural History</i> —edited by J. Pezzoni—\$20.00
_____	<i>The Heritage of Wayne County</i> —compiled by Mary Johnstone—\$50.00
_____	<i>History of Wayne County</i> —edited by Bob Johnson and Charles Norwood—\$35.00
_____	<i>Postcards of Wayne County</i> —by Sarah Manning and Emily Weil—\$10.00
_____	<i>Wayne County Cemeteries Volume III</i> — Old Dobbs Genealogical Society—\$45.00

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- _____ - Subtotal
 - _____ - 7.75% Tax (NC residents)
 - _____ - Shipping — \$5.00 per book
 - _____ - Total

Make checks payable to: WCHA, PO Box 665, Goldsboro, NC 27533-0665.

To purchase Wayne County Cemeteries Volume II, please make checks payable to Old Dobbs Genealogical Society.

President Leigh Strickland~ Vice President Elliott Futrell~ Co-Second Vice Presidents Nancy Delia and Emily Weil
~Third Vice President Steve Bryan~ Secretary Maegen Wilson~ Treasurer Arnold Flowers

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