

WAYNE ECHOES

The Newsletter of the Wayne County Museum

VOL. 4, No. 1

Spring 1992

"Sotheby's" Southern Style

Striving ever upward and onward, the Museum now fancies itself (or rather fantasizes in its wildest dreams) as "Sotheby's" South.

Yes. Sotheby's. The auction house of millionaires. Here. This month.

Would you like to bid on a dream house on the Isle of Capri? Some Picasso sketches? Dinner on the next Concorde flight to Paris? Or would you like to swing on a star? Carry moonbeams home in a jar?

An emphatic no! These items are not to be mentioned by veteran auctioneer, Donald Pike. And not a word from his back-ups, Tom and Dennis Bell, either.

Back to stark reality.

A "Sotheby's" Extravaganza (please note quotation marks) is on tap at the Museum on Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m. Cocktails and a buffet, catered by Ann Tolar, will provide sustenance while you bid



Sketch by Jack Cobb

and reach for your checkbooks.

This is a major fund-raiser, after all. You start out bidding low on your choice of more than 45 items on the block. Mr. Pike will have you swinging on a star in no time. The enticing conglomeration includes vacation homes, a Firman Ayres decoy and other fine accessories, paintings, home furnishings, antiques and catered dinners.

Hosts are Ruth Bynum, chairman of the event, and her husband, Bo; Ellen and Jack Best; Caroline and Borden Parker; Kim and Judson Pope.

Aycock Speaks For Women

March is Women's History Month and will be celebrated at the Wayne County Museum with a women's awards ceremony and keynote speech by William B. Aycock geared toward women's issues.

Five women will be recognized for their outstanding contributions to the county. Aycock, former chancellor and Kenan professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, will speak on "Equality Under the Law Between the Sexes." Patricia Turlington and William A. Dees are promoters of Aycock's visit here.

The awards program on Sunday, March 22, 2 p.m. will honor Nancy Chase of Eureka, Geneva Bass Hamilton of Goldsboro, Ethel Twiford of Goldsboro, Lorelle Martin of Mount Olive and Betsy Johnson of Fremont.

First elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives in 1962, Mrs. Chase, widow

Cont. on Page 4

Area Archaeology Focus of Program on Indians, April 12

The Museum's latest exhibit, "Early Indian Civilization," opened to a packed house Jan. 19, with roughly 200 children and adults viewing the displays. Over half of these stayed to watch a demonstration of Indian dance performed by area scouts from the Order of the Arrow.

The dancers followed Chief Early Eagle of the Eno-Occaneechi tribe who spoke at length on Indian culture and natural medicines.

A second Sunday afternoon program is planned for April 12, when Dr. David Phelps of

East Carolina University will speak on "Archaeology of the Inner Coastal Plain" at 2 p.m. Dr. Phelps is head of the school's anthropology department and has worked on the archaeological dig of a Tuscarora fort near Snow Hill.

The exhibit on Indians promises to be one of the most popular in the last couple of years; in the first month alone, the Museum gave eight scheduled tours to school groups and many more are planned before the exhibit closes in May. Exhibit chairman Leon Kaylor is conducting most of the tours.

De-Rail-A-Bration Connection

The Museum will add its videotape expertise to the De-Rail-A-Bration scheduled for April 10 and 11 in downtown Goldsboro.

The two-day event is a salute to the citizens who removed the railroad tracks on Center Street one night in 1926. The trains, slowly chugging through the middle of main street, spewing smoke and debris as they stopped to unload their cargo, had become intolerable to residents and visitors alike. Despite appeals to

remove the nuisance, various officials had done nothing.

Five local people who remember "The Night the Tracks Disappeared" will appear in the videotape, a joint effort of the Museum and the celebration event's history committee.

Participants include John Spicer, interviewed by his niece, Jane Franklin, who also interviewed Heloise Epps; Tom Griffin, Gertrude Hood and Ruby Little Griffin were interviewed by Christian Cobb.

Wayne County Museum Trustees

Chairman:

Christian Cobb

Vice Chairman:

Richard Griswold

Secretary:

Barbara Hatch

Treasurer:

Randy Sauls

Elizabeth Arrington

Margaret Boothe Baddour

Hilda Culverwell

Charles Ellis

Elizabeth Ellis

Mark Evans

Jean Faison

Sedalia Green

Velda Faye Howell

Richard Moffatt

Vera O'Rourke

Rachelle Richardson

Katie Taylor

Willis B. Underwood III

James Vinson III

Bertha Wooten

Director:

Susan G. Flanagan

Editor:

Jean Powell

Published by the
Wayne County Museum
116 N. William Street
Goldsboro, N.C.
919-734-5023

Exhibit Hours:

2-5 p.m.

Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday

Office Hours:

Monday 9-5

Tuesday 1:30-5

Wednesday 9-12

Thursday 1:30-5

Friday 9-12

The aim of the Wayne County Museum is to collect, preserve, study and exhibit those objects that illustrate the story of man and nature in eastern central North Carolina.

Ida Williams: A Volunteer's Contributions

Ida Hodge Williams loves to talk, but not about her own accomplishments. She will talk about the organizations she has been involved in over the years, but clams up when she's asked about her role in successful projects.

Ida finally agreed to list some of her jobs at the Museum and other organizations.

A native of Kenly, Ida spent a lot of time visiting Goldsboro during her growing-up years and later when she took a job here. She had always wanted to settle down in Goldsboro, but there were a few interruptions including a tour of duty in Japan with her Air Force husband, James Louis Williams. After Jim retired, the couple decided Goldsboro was the perfect place to raise their two children, Paula Williams Boseman of Virginia Beach, Va., mother of Ida's two granddaughters, and Louis Jr. of New Bern.

That was over 30 years ago. Jim founded and is still active in Jim Williams Business Forms.

Ida knew from her experience as an Air Force officer's wife all about getting involved in volunteer work. She already had the built-in love of people and outgoing personality which made this a



Sketch by Jack Cobb

pleasant lifestyle for her.

From vacuuming floors and washing windows to appearing before the Wayne County Commissioners and Goldsboro City Council to appeal for funds, this versatile dynamo gets the job done. She was appointed to a committee in 1985 to organize the Museum. She is a charter member of the Board of Trustees and has served as secretary of the board.

Her Museum committee work includes former chairmanship of budget and finance; bylaws committee chairman; co-chairman of a Museum fund-raising drive which netted \$14,000; and member of administrative, public relations, acquisitions, scrapbook and photo album

committees.

Ida's interest in history extends to active participation on the Gov. Charles B. Aycock Birthplace Historic Site Commission. A charter member of the organization, she was appointed by the late Gov. Dan K. Moore and elected vice chairman. Currently chairman, Ida has served on the Commission for 21 years.

Ida gives freely of her time to First Baptist Church and is currently church clerk, historian, chairman of the Memorials Committee, Mission Actions director and is a member of the finance, building, renovation, and finances and program committees.

Ida's activities have included work with the Wayne County Mental Health Board. A charter member she is past vice-chairman and has directed volunteers in various programs of the Mental Health Center.

Museum Board of Trustees Chairman Christian Cobb sums up the character of this Wayne County treasure:

"Ida is an inspiration for everyone to give whatever resources they have to their community. Her contributions are invaluable in keeping the Museum alive and growing, her generosity is unequalled in the giving of her time and her wide vision is unparalleled."

Volunteers Have a Very Busy Winter

It was an active winter for the Museum's many volunteers, helping with the Murder Mystery and family open house in December, and preparing for the Indian exhibit opening in January.

Special thanks to Center Stage Players Rich Bernstein, Ken Foreman, Karen Nauer, Olive Auger, Allison Keeter and Wes Bell who were very convincing murder suspects; to the "plants" in the audience helping to steer the audience to the right solution: Debbie McClendon, Patty Gabriel, Leslie West-Bell and Saline Schaefer.



Working behind the scenes to make the fundraiser a success were Susie Edmondson, Jim Morgan, Peggy Griswold, Carolyn Lewis, Betsy Spring, Cleaves Smith, Wooten Underwood, Ida Williams, Sarah Robinson and June and Jack Wharton.

Soprano Emily Weil and pianist Jimmy Aycock combined musical talents at a holiday open house Dec. 22; Ida Williams provided refreshments.

Keeping the Museum open over the winter months were Mavis Uzzell, Ted Scoval, Harold Ward, Harold Tart, James McClenny, Jim Morgan, Bessie Bell, Sylvia Levin, Mary Grady, Lila Fagan, Ruby Ehlers, Grace Temple, Sadie Boing, Mary Johnstone, John Charlton, Mae Murray, Orie Cooper, Lillian Pettit, Ruth Boyd, Rachel McKenzie and Dorothy and Lloyd Pugh.

Women's Awards

Cont. from Page 1

of Thomas Chase, has served as a volunteer in the areas of mental health, the Wayne Community College board of trustees and as a member of the Charles B. Aycock Historic Site Commission. Janice Chase will receive the award for her mother-in-law. Ida Williams will give a brief biography.

Geneva Bass Hamilton is a former teacher in the Goldsboro and Wayne County Schools. The widow of Levi Hamilton, she is president of Hamilton Funeral Home. She organized Operation Boot Strap, a community

action program. Elizabeth Arrington will introduce her.

Educator in the Goldsboro area for 42 years, Ethel Twiford is an active member of the Museum and has served on the board of trustees and numerous committees. She is also author of "With a Single Eye," a history of St. Paul Methodist Church. Her husband is C.W. Twiford. Martha Ray will introduce Mrs. Twiford.

Lorelle Martin is professor emeritus of biology at Mount Olive College. She joined the faculty in 1957 and retired as chairman of the Science Department

in 1987. A member of the First Baptist Church of Mount Olive, Mrs. Martin is an ordained deacon and Sunday School teacher. She is the widow of Robert R. Martin. Mrs. Martin will be presented by her former boss, Dr. R. Burkette Raper, president of the College.

Betsy Johnson, chairman of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners since 1987, will be presented by Phil Baddour, Jr. Betsy is active in the Fremont Methodist Church and has served two terms as president of the Wayne County Democratic Women. Her husband is Leroy Johnson.

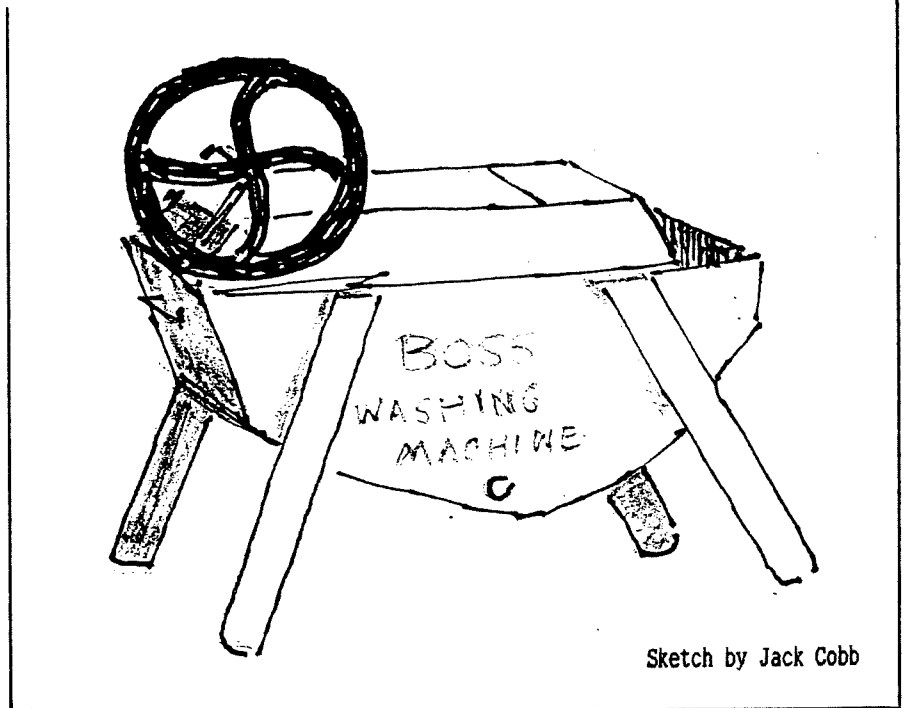
Collection Gains Unusual Acquisition

Gifts received by the Museum over the last few months will contribute to the growing Permanent Collection.

The largest is also the most unusual, a "Boss Washing Machine," donated by Milton Hendrixson. Despite its name, this contraption bears little resemblance to what we call a washing machine. Standing on four wooden legs, the half moon washtub has a metal tub and a hand crank that operates two parallel washboards...an early version of the agitator. Detailed instructions are printed on the outside, but they are difficult to read because they're so worn. This machine obviously got a lot of use. Some research will need to be done to accurately date it.

The Museum was also given some pictures that will be hung on the walls. The Waynesborough Kiwanis Club donated the colorful print, "Gateway to Eastern North Carolina" by Jerry Bean. This was the same work on area history that graced the 1990 Our Town phone directory.

The Wayne County Public Library's History Room was given a series of black and white photographs on local historic homes by Barton Preston; they had 11 duplicates of these which they agreed to let the Museum have. These will be mounted and framed for permanent



exhibition as soon as donors can be lined up

to underwrite the expense.

Permanent Collection Returns

The Museum's Permanent Collection will come out of hibernation in May when the Indian Exhibit closes.

Those of you who didn't see it when it first opened in 1990 will be given another chance. Those who did will want to return to the atmosphere of a simpler and kinder era.

You remember the proverbial wandering nomad? The collection was as homeless as that fellow until its travels ended at the double doors of the Museum in 1989. It made 10 moves beginning in 1955, including one stay at Ray Armstrong's house on

William Street. This exhibit will be followed in the fall by the Wayne County Business and Industry Exhibit, already in the tentative planning stages.

Rave Reviews

Thanks to the efforts of the Goldsboro Garden Club, the Museum's colorful flagpole planter is drawing many compliments. The Club plants and maintains the beds and Keep Wayne County Beautiful has donated the cost of the bulbs and flowers.



Include Ticket to History in Your Budget

Include Museum membership dues in your 1992 budget and get a tax break in the process.

Your ticket to history can cost a modest \$15 for an individual to whatever your philanthropic tendencies may be--\$500 for a patron; \$100, sustainer; \$50, sponsor; \$25 family.

The ongoing membership drive already has nearly 170 members and \$6,000. Many of these are first-time members.

The Museum offers special exhibits, group and school tours, a quarterly newsletter

(don't let this be your last issue because your membership lapsed), area history referral, historic site visits, local history videos, cultural programs and oral history films.

A 10 percent discount is available to members for purchases in the Gift Shop. The Shop is open to the public on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday during exhibit hours, 2-5 p.m.

Volunteers' Luncheon on Tap

The volunteers who give unstintingly of their time to help keep the Museum well oiled and running smoothly will be honored at a luncheon in May. The date and time will be announced later.

Without the

volunteers' efforts there would be no Wayne County Museum. Can you imagine what the payroll would be even if the salaries were at minimum wage levels?

Volunteer applications are available at the Museum.



Wayne County Museum
Post Office Box 665
Goldsboro, N.C. 27533

Nonprofit Org
US Postage
PAID
Permit No 397
Goldsboro, NC

Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Twiford
1202 Muriel Street
Goldsboro, NC 27530