

1.31-2K

A Note from the President

BY DENNIS BELL

Thanks to Bobby Parker for conducting the last two meetings of WCHA. Our Vice-President did an excellent job.

The storms this past fall did extreme damage to Waynesborough Park, but recovery and restoration are nearly complete. We are all aware of the terrible destruction of Seven Springs, and the WCHA is helping to preserve the area by partially funding the procedure to help establish the town as a National Historic site.

Having done that, an Executive Committee meeting was held and the following addendum to the WCHA bylaws to be presented for approval at the next board meeting.

Article 5, Section 6

REQUEST FOR MONIES

A request for funds in excess of \$500.00 will be made in writing to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the WCHA for their study and review. The Executive Committee will make a report and recommendation for action on the request to the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Our annual membership drive is now underway. Enclosed in this newsletter is a card, to be return to the WCHA office. Please sign the card and return it in the envelope supplied. If you need another card for yourself or someone else, please call us at (919) 739-9989 at the Waynesborough Welcome Center and we will send you one.

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2000

- 5 1-5 p.m. Cultural Affairs Committee; OWC-"Taste of Waynesborough"
- 7 4 p.m. Insurance Committee at WWC
- 8 4 p.m. Tourism Committee at WWC
- 10 4 p.m. OWC Board Meeting at WWC
- 12 9 a.m. - 12 noon, Neuse Trails Maintenance at Stoney Creek
- 14 5:15 p.m. WCHA Board Meeting at WWC
- 24 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. B.A.H. at WWC
- 27 2 p.m. Black American History Celebration in Mount Olive, MOC Murphy Center

MARCH

- 4 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bust Tour of northern Wayne County
- 9 4 p.m. OWC Board Meeting at WWC
- 11 9 a.m. - 12 noon Neuse Trails Maintenance Stoney Creek
- 11 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bus Tour of southern Wayne County

- 13 5:15 p.m. WCHA Board of Directors Meeting
- 24 5:30-7 p.m. C.B. Aycock Open House, call 242-5581 for more information.
- 25 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fremont Daffodil Festival

APRIL

- 5 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon Living History at C.B. Aycock Birthplace Historical Site
- 10 4 pm WCHA Board Meeting at WWC
- 13 4 p.m. OWC Board Meeting at WWC
- 15 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. De-Rail-A-Bratton, Downtown Goldsboro
- 19 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon Living History at C.B. Aycock Birthplace Historical Site
- 22 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Old Dobbs Genealogical Society Meeting at Western Sizzlin, Goldsboro

MAY

- 6 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Festival at Waynesborough

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WAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
 601-B US 117 S.
 GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27530

Reflections

Old Waynesborough Society

The Old Waynesborough Commission completed 1999 with the adoption of a strategic plan that lays the foundation for both the Historic Village and the Visitors Center. Five teams are actively working to meet the goals that have been set by the Commission. A master plan is being developed by the Building and Grounds Team that will be presented to the Society at their annual business meeting in June.

The long awaited move of the Hatch House should be completed during the first quarter of 2000. The recent flooding that caused the moving company to divert their work to more humanitarian causes held this up. The village suffered major building damage but in most cases, repair has been completed. The Odd Fellows Museum was the hardest hit as it had hardwood floors. It should be ready for our annual festival on May 6, 2000.

We are still waiting for fill dirt from the DOT to take care of the Robert's School and some around the Grange Museum that will be centered on agriculture. The blacksmith log cabin is almost complete thanks to the Federal prisoners that have volunteered their time on Saturdays. The Neuse Correctional Facility has assisted with the brick and mortar work on the two recent acquisitions and the log cabin. We

should be starting the Tuscarora Indian Village in late January.

The Village is open everyday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Sundays from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. We can always use volunteers to act as tour guides. We have recently had a girl's softball team volunteer for this activity. Bobby and Velda Faye Howell and our Historical Education team will train them.

Our Tourism and facility team is coordinating with all of the towns in the county to emphasize the historic aspects of cultural tourism. We will also emphasize Black History at our first Cultural Affairs festival in the park on Saturday, February 5. This is being put together by three of our teams and the Welcome Center Staff. We hope that you will support this event and the Spring Festival in May.

Our membership drive is different than our parent organization, The Wayne County Historical Association. When our Strategic Plan is presented in June our drive will start with realistic goals for the money that is required to be raised. We will however accept donations and artifacts at any time. We invite you to visit our village at your leisure in 2000.

Old Dobbs Genealogical Society

I certainly hope each of you had the Merriest Christmas ever and a happy and successful New Year during 2000.

I recently put out an inquiry on the Internet about a line I have been working on for some time and received a reply from one of my wife's second cousin who is working on the same line. We were thrilled to meet again after so many years and I was able to take her to the grave site of her great-grandparents in one part of the County and to that of their great-great grandparents in another part of the County. In addition, we were able to share other information we had developed with each other.

To me, this is one of the best things about the wonderful avocation genealogy-answering questions and filling in blank spots for others-I would encourage each of you to be as much help as you can with those who are searching for information. The rewards are great and you probably will, in the long run, receive more than you give.

The North Carolina Society of Historians held its 58th Annual Awards Program at the Holiday Inn in Statesville, NC recently. The Society received approximately 458 entries for several categories and of this number only 75 works were

chosen to receive awards. "Olde Dobbs Trail," the newsletter of the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society, was selected for the second consecutive year to receive a prestigious *Joe E. McLaurin Newsletter Award*. Laura J. Alley of Goldsboro is the editor of this award-winning newsletter.

Upon announcing the award, President, Elizabeth Bray Sherrill, read the following judges' collective sentiments regarding this entry, "This newsletter serves its members well. It provides them with space to ask their genealogical/historical questions; gives tidbits of information pertaining to Old Dobbs County; reprints old newspaper articles; states its purpose well; provides prospective members with an application form; lists publications that are available. It has been an award-winner with this group for several years. It has taken on a very professional look, is well-printed and is thoroughly enjoyable to read. The award was accepted by Charles B. Ellis, past president of the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society and Director of the NC Society of Historians.

If you would like more information, contact Laura Alley at 734-2337.

Mount Olive Area Historical Society

A program entitled, "The History of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad" was held on January 24, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rogers Chapel at Mount Olive College. It was presented by Jay Hammer, former program director of the Railroad Museum in Wilmington.

~~Work will begin in the spring on the old Steele Memorial~~

Library to convert it into a Museum. The Mount Olive Commissioners granted the Historical Society permission to use the building as a museum.

A color brochure featuring historic Mount Olive will be printed.

WCHA Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of January 10, 2000 WCHA Board Meeting - 5:15 p.m. Call to Order by Bobby Parker 1st Vice-President (Dennis is out of town).

The minutes from the December 13, 1999 Board Meeting was approved.

The Financial Report from Cheryl Alleman (Cheryl was not present), copies were given out. A motion was made by Ed Kelly to approve the report, seconded by Emily Weil and the Board approved.

COMPONENT REPORTS:

Old Waynesborough Commission - Ed Kelly is the President of OWC. Report printed elsewhere.

Wayne County Museum - Scott Chase is the Director. Report printed elsewhere.

Old Dobbs Genealogical Society - Report printed elsewhere.

Revolving Fund - No report.

Town Meeting Hall - No report.

C.B. Aycock- Charlotte Brow. Report printed elsewhere.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. \$1600 in book sales.
- b. Bus Tours - no date.
- c. Dues - Letter to be written by Laura Shiver and DRW Friday and printed elsewhere.
- d. Insurance - Ed Kelly, Dennis Bell, and Bobby Parker to meet on February 7 to review all insurance for a blanket policy.
- e. Reflections - will go to press next week.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mary Grady of Seven Springs asked the WCHA for \$4,000 for someone to survey, prepare and submit a nomination to the Department of Interior for Seven Springs Historic Area. A motion was made by Mary Grady and seconded by Ed Kelly and the board approved the motion.

The next meeting will be on February 14, 2000 at 5:15 p. m. in the Waynesborough Welcome Center.

Meeting adjourned.

Dear Friend of WCHA

We are currently conducting our 2000 Membership Drive for the Wayne County Historical Association. Membership dues are \$25.00, which are tax deductible, and includes an operational fee for the Revolving Fund. We are not collecting dues for the Old Dobbs Genealogical Society, the Old Waynesborough Commission, and the Wayne County Museum, as all of these component organizations are conducting their own membership drives.

Over the past year, the WCHA has been very active in the preservation and education of our county's history. We participated in the addition of restored buildings to Waynesborough Village, the use of the Town Meeting Hall for two fall weddings and organized three extremely successful "Glimpses of Wayne County" bus tours, in addition to many other activities. In order to continue these

and other such offerings, we need your support.

Your dues pay for our quarterly newsletter "Reflections", which describes the activities of our components. Included are articles and updates on the Old Waynesborough Commission and Village, the Welcome Center, the Wayne County Museum, the Old Dobbs Genealogical Society, and the Revolving Fund, as well as the Charles B. Aycock Birthplace. Furthermore, your dues are vital to the WCHA's mission to collect and preserve the history of Wayne County.

Attached are a membership card and return envelope for your convenience. Please return these today with you tax-deductible \$25.00 dues and renew your commitment to our county's heritage.

Wayne County Museum

On Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, 1999, we opened our WWII exhibit. The Honorable Hal Plonk was our M.C. for the opening. The Seymour Johnson AFB Honor Guard raised our flag in honor of the veterans who served during WWII and Senior Airman Pamela Banks sang the national Anthem. Local Eastern Wayne High School student, Jason Gillis, along with Dudley native Leland Smith of Ft. Fisher performed a mini-reenactment. Many of the veterans who donated their artifacts were in attendance. The exhibit will be displayed throughout the end of January. Many thanks go to all that helped make this exhibit possible.

We are going to miss our volunteer Mrs. Betsy Reavis who has left to move back to Montgomery County. Mrs. Reavis was very dedicated to the museum and we wish her much success in her move. We have two new volunteers for Tuesdays, Mr. C.

Ray Smith, a WWII veteran and Stephen Elliott, who has helped us out tremendously over the past few months. The museum appreciates the volunteer help from the students of Goldsboro High School, Christine Grant, Robert Keller, Jim Mullen and Randy Sauls. Our volunteers have really worked hard this year! We still need more volunteers, call us at 734-5023 or email us at museum@esn.net.

The operating hours have changed: Tuesday and Thursdays from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays closed and by appointment. Please come by and see our new Gift Shop. We have a new variety of Civil War novelties for the young and young at heart.

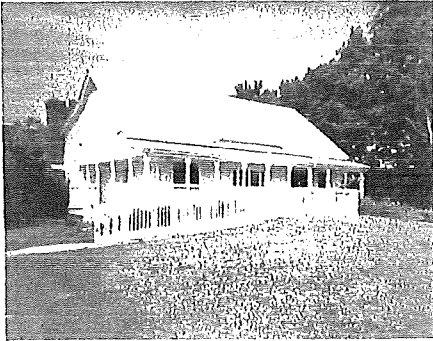
We are planning to have part of the exhibit hall dedicated to Black History Month in February, followed by the Korean/Vietnam War exhibit in the spring.

Reflections

WAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION
801-B US 117 S.
GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27530

Phone: 919-739-9889

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C.B. Aycock Birthplace

The Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace celebrated its fortieth anniversary as a State Historic Site on November 6 with a commemorative special event which some six hundred visitors came to the site. One hundred and seventy-five visitors were Aycock descendants that attended a family reunion and enjoyed a barbecue buffet. Everyone enjoyed wagon rides, storytelling, living history demonstrations and music by a gospel group Centennial. Keith Stewart moderated a platform ceremony which included Deputy Secretary Betsy Buford of the Department of Cultural Resources, Jim McPherson, Administrator of NC Historic Sites and Rob Boyette, Chief of Interpretation for NC Historic Sites. Rob, who completed research on Aycock, focused on actions by various people to commemorate the governor since his death in 1912.

On December 7 and 9, the historic site hosted Candlelight Tours from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Primitive Baptist Singers performed a cappella in the site's auditorium. Costumed interpreters shared Christmas traditions, cooked over an open-hearth fireplace, performed a shadow play and served cider to the picking of a banjo, courtesy of Lynn Bull, to the delight of visitors. A total of six hundred and nineteen visitors attended during the two nights.

On March 24, C.B. Aycock Birthplace will host an Open House event in conjunction with the Fremont Daffodil Festival (March 25). First graders from Fremont, Northeast, and Northwest Elementary will be our special guests. Wagon rides, a petting zoo with lots of baby animals, and living history demonstrations will be featured. For more information, call (919) 242-5581.

BOOKS FOR SALE

Remember we have books for sale. The sale of books is the primary source of income for WCHA. Encourage your friends to give books for all occasions. These books are available at Weil Enterprises, 106 E. Walnut St., the Wayne County Library and at the Waynesborough Visitors Information Center.



Architecture of Goldsboro is \$10
Wayne County Heritage is \$40
Postcards of Old Wayne was \$20, now \$12
Glimpses of Wayne was \$35, now \$30
Postcards and Glimpses as a set is \$38