

REFLECTIONS

Newsletter of the Wayne County Historical Association

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

www.waynecountyhistoricalnc.org



Museum Events 2012

Exhibits

Ongoing-July 20th
"A Brief Look at Journalism"

August 7th-October 25th
"Ships and Their Stories"

Programs

July 3rd -
Thomas Vick
"The Importance of Journalism"
7:00 PM

July 10th at 11:30
General Membership Meeting
Please join us at Torrero's

July 14th
Mr Williford
"Voice of America
Greenville, NC location"
2:00 PM

August 21st
Cindy Ramsey
"A North Carolina Icon
Brought to Life:
Sea Stories of Sailors Aboard the
WWII Battleship North Carolina"
7:00 PM

August 28th
Jeff Bockert
"The Monitor and Virginia"
7:00 PM

September 4th
Morris Bass
"The CSS Neuse"
7:00 PM

Welcome Aboard!
Jennifer Crye

From the President

Hi WCHA members! I hope that everyone's summer is off to a great start! This is the time of year that most people enjoy going on vacation or taking weekend trips to the beach. These wonderful things to do, but I would like to encourage you to remember the things that are "in your own back yard." Stop by the museum and take a look at the Journalism exhibit if you have not yet done so. This exhibit will only be at the museum for a few more weeks. Don't miss it! After your visit to the museum, take advantage of the many cultural places and events in the county – view the Civil War Photography exhibit at the Wayne County Public Library (hurry! it ends June 28), see what's happening at the Paramount Theater, visit Waynesborough Park, the Cliffs of the Neuse, the Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace, next month visit corner of Main Street and Faro Road in Eureka to see the new highway historical marker, which will commemorate the 1961 nuclear near-catastrophe, and enjoy the many July 4th celebrations that will take place – just to name a few things.

The WCHA will be trying something a little different this summer: a lunch-time, general membership meeting on July 10th at Torrero's in downtown Goldsboro. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am, in their social room in the back of the restaurant. Come join us!

I would like to end this note by saying thank you to the executive board! You have made my 13 months a very pleasant experience! Thank you for all that you do! I would also like to thank Terry and Chris for planning, designing, and setting up exhibits and for keeping things running smoothly at the museum! And finally, a warm welcome to our new secretary, Jennifer Crye! Jennifer comes to us from the Wayne County Public Library and has an interest in local history. We look forward to having her on board.



What a beautiful day for the Cemetery Walk. Kirk Keller (pictured, bright coral shirt) did a wonderful job organizing and leading the tour. His salute to Brodie West was memorable and poignant; Margaret Baddour as Sitti (Grandmother in Arabic — not pictured) was enchanting. Jim Hinnant from Xpress Communications filmed the event, which can be seen on Channel 10, the government channel. Watch our schedule of events for the next tour this fall.

What's been happening down at the Museum

Good day all,

We hope you are enjoying the summer and are finding unique ways to beat the heat .. As always, we are here for your visiting pleasure. Our Journalism Exhibit is ongoing and has an exhibit-based scavenger hunt for those with children out of school. The upcoming maritime and river shipping exhibit promises to be one of our best.

Looking back, we couldn't have picked a better day for the Cemetery Walk. The weather was perfect and we had a great turnout. Kirk Keller's cast of characters made it a memorable experience. As mentioned on the front, our own Margaret Baddour gave a fascinating performance as Freida Hakim Farfour. Taps and the WWI Doughboy served as a fitting conclusion to this event. Keep an eye out for the next tour, planned for late fall.

Our journalism exhibit kicked off with a bang with **Carl Kasell**, of NPR fame, as guest speaker. The event was well attended, and not only did Mr Kasell tell some wonderful stories, many of his Goldsboro High School classmates were in attendance as well. A good time was had by all.

Two weeks later, **Gene Roberts**, Pulitzer prize winning newspaperman, gave us some insight into his long and distinguished career. He was followed later in the month by long-time editor and author Gene Price.

Dr Frank Fee gave a very enlightening lecture on "News and Journalism During the Civil War", and was followed later in the month by two local radio personalities Wayne Alley and Robyn Wade.

Comings and goings: Welcome to Jennifer Crye the new WCHA secretary. She will be a wonderful addition to the board. As some of you may have heard, Terry Williams will be leaving the museum in the fall. For her, it has been a real pleasure working at the museum and she will miss you all, wishing you the very best. We are lucky, though in the fact that Chris Lawson will be staying on, providing continuity for the museum and the new director.

Museum Staff



Below: Mr Gene Roberts related stories from Civil Rights to peculiar personalities he has met. Thanks to Anna Lawson for her help with the reception.



Above: Mr Gene Price—former editor of the News Argus and author of "Folks Around Here" told us some wonderful stories.



Above: Wayne Alley and Robyn Wade host a panel addressing their careers in broadcast journalism. Both came to radio journalism in very different ways, and had greatly varied careers. Our timing was perfect for Wayne Alley as he had just moved over to WGTV; so he could give us some insight into the realm of television broadcasting.

The Voice of America

Voice of American (VOA) went on the air on February 1, 1942, fifty-six days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the entry of the U S into WWII. The first broadcast was beamed to Europe via BBC transmitters. Greatly expanded during the war, the VOA, like many other agencies saw reductions in the post-war era. In 1952, they were subject to Senator McCarthy's hearings to investigate programming and engineering practices at VOA and allegations that there were "subversives on the staff guilty of negligence favoring communism." While the charges of subversive activity were never proven, widespread dismissals and resignations followed. In the wake of the Congressional hearings, the VOA was deeply impacted, struggling to stay afloat as its budget was reduced, the transmitter construction program and a number of language services were halted.

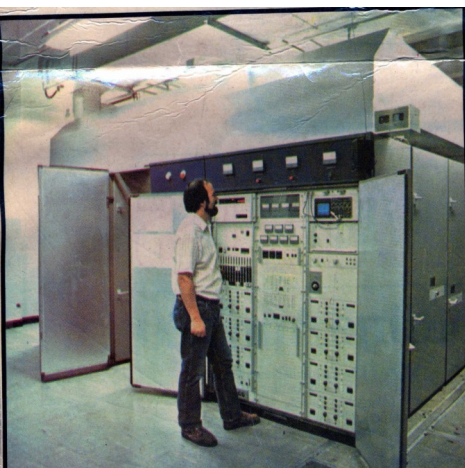
On August 1, 1953, the United States Information Agency was established, and VOA became its single largest element. A year later, VOA moved its headquarters from New York City to its present site on Independence Avenue, S.W., not far from the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC.

In its new home, VOA enhanced its news operations and diversified English features. One of the most popular new programs was *Music USA*, particularly the broadcast's second half — *Jazz Hour*, hosted by Willis Conover, America's premier jazz expert. *Music USA* soon became immensely popular behind the Iron Curtain. During his four decades with VOA, Conover recorded more than 10,000 shows and interviewed numerous music greats, including Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, Irving Berlin, Billie Holliday, and Duke Ellington.

Throughout the years, the VOA has proved itself capable of covering effectively the most pressing and or historic issues of the time. From the Cuban missile crisis of 1962, the constitutional crisis posed by Watergate, to the events of September 11th.

It has continually updated its programming -- in the '80s by inaugurating broadcasting in the Dari language to Afghanistan in September 1980, nine months after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan; expanding Mandarin and Cantonese broadcasts and frequencies in 1989 to bring tens, and perhaps hundreds, of millions of Chinese listeners accurate reports of the pro-democracy movement that filled Beijing's Tiananmen Square and the streets of dozens of other cities. Following the massacre in Rwanda and exodus of refugees, VOA introduced Kirundi- and Kinyarwanda-language programming for listeners in Central Africa in 1996. — naming only a few of the many programs instituted.

Although historically an international radio broadcaster, VOA began to simulcast programs on radio and TV in the mid-1990s. In 1994, the Voice of America became the first international broadcaster to offer its material through the Internet. Initially, the site offered information through two simple text-based formats, then added audio and video. Within a few years, VOA had become an increasingly important source of news on the Internet. By the end of 1999, much of the programming in each of VOA's 53 (at the time) language services was available on the web.



This picture as well as the one above show VOA Relay Stations (circa 1960) in Eastern North Carolina.

Then, in late 2002, the BBG launched Radio Farda (Tomorrow), an around-the-clock radio station in Persian that was a joint project of the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (in July 2008 it moved completely under RFE/RL). At the start of the new decade, VOA also expanded its TV programming to Iran, aimed at the millions of Iranians who watch satellite television. Nobel laureate Shirin Ebadi said she had always held VOA radio and television programs in high regard. "VOA Persian," she observed, "has always provided unbiased and timely reports which I listen to whenever I get a chance." According to audience research, one in four Iranians listened or watched VOA programs at least once a week in 2006, thus making VOA the most popular international broadcaster in Iran.

VOA continues to examine new technologies and refine its programming to reflect the needs of its audiences. One goal remains, however, for the hundreds of professionals who make up the Voice of America — to deliver comprehensive, timely, and truthful information. The VOA will continue to broadcast the sounds of freedom and serve as a beacon of hope for its millions of listeners, viewers, and Web users around the world.

Publications for Sale

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Title and Price</u>
_____	<i>People and Plantations: Wayne County, NC: 1701-1860</i> — by Emily Weil and Charles Ellis-\$20.00
_____	<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>Wayne County Cemeteries Volume III</i> — Old Dobbs Genealogical Society—\$45.00

_____ - Subtotal

_____ - 6.75% 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~ Second Vice President Nancy Delia and Emily Weil
~Third Vice President Steve Bryan~ Secretary Jennifer Crye~ Treasurer Arnold Flowers

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