

# Wayne County HISTORICAL Association Newsletter

October 1989

## *Fall and Winter Schedule Announced*

Activities are shaping up for the Fall and Winter schedule of the Wayne County Historical Association. Although the calendar is not complete, plans for the meetings are well underway.

The October 22 meeting will feature Downtown Goldsboro Development Corporation Director Taffy Tamblyn who will speak on the revitalization of downtown Goldsboro. The meeting will be at 3 p.m. in the Wayne County Library Auditorium.

No general meeting has been scheduled for November or December. However, the association members have been invited to join the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society for a dutch luncheon at 11:30 a.m., December 9, 1989, at the Southern Belle Restaurant. The Association

will also support a Christmas-time function at the museum. The date has not been set for this treat.

The Wayne County Historical Association and the old Dobbs County Genealogical Society will co-sponsor Dorothy Redford, January 28, 1989, the preliminary introduction for the Black History Exhibit at the Museum in February. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for 3 p.m. in the Wayne Community College Auditorium on Wayne Memorial Drive. Dorothy Redford is the author of Somerset Homecoming and is also the director/curator of the antebellum plantation, Somerset Place, near Creswell, NC.

March will herald the 125th anniversary of the end of the War Between the States. A

major exhibit will be mounted which will include original documents, uniforms, ordinance, rifles, flags and other memorabilia of the War Between the States.

A special feature of the exhibit will be a reproduction of the Confederate First National Flag made by the Ladies of the Wayne Female Academy and presented to the Goldsboro Rifles in 1861.

The Annual Meeting of the Association is scheduled for April in the Town Hall. The May meeting is our Annual Picnic in Waynesborough Park. Details will be forthcoming.

All in all there appears to be a lot of upcoming history in meetings, artifacts at the museum, and in genealogy around the county.

# Downtown Efforts Worthy of Awards

The following letter was printed in the Downtown Goldsboro Development Corporation's recent newsletter. Your editor thought it was appropriate for reproduction in our newsletter.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to The Downtown Goldsboro Development Corporation! We in The Wayne County Historical Association have watched your organization as it very methodically went about managing the restoration and revitalization of The Goldsboro Central Business District. Your efforts are strikingly visible when driving around Downtown. There is an old expression, "What's past is prologue." That's certainly true for Downtown Goldsboro.

The four Main Street Awards you received are graphic evidence that Goldsboro has caused the rest of

North Carolina to sit up and take notice that "we are alive, well and on the move."

The old buildings and homes which remain are becoming more important everyday, for if we cannot recognize and preserve the past, we cannot expect much for the future. We know from past experience that your organization, working with the Goldsboro Historic District Commission, will keep a keen eye on new construction planned for vacant lots within the Downtown District. Unlike new construction in other city areas, designs for the District need to both blend with earlier architecture of surrounding structures, while clearly appearing to be products of our modern times. Of equal importance is the probability that - in time - today's new buildings

will become historic buildings in their own right.

I am pleased to note that our organization and The Downtown Goldsboro Development Corporation are working together to improve this part of Wayne County. I am also proud of the opportunities our members have had in working with and supporting your organization. We in The Wayne County Historical Association appreciate your generous support in all areas and especially in the publication of the Goldsboro Tour Guide of Places of Historic Interest.

Again, congratulations for the many accomplishments. We look forward to continued cooperative support in areas of mutual interest.

Charles Brantley Ellis  
President  
Wayne County Historical Association

## WCHA Co-sponsors Redford Presentation

The Wayne County Historical Association and the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society are pleased to announce that they will co-sponsor the presentation of Dorothy Spruill Redford, January 28, 1990. Dorothy Redford is a genealogist, lecturer, and is

the author of Somerset Homecoming, Recovering a Lost Heritage.

The presentation of Ms. Redford will coincide with the opening of the Wayne County Museum's Black History Celebration and display during the month of February.

She is also the Curator/Program Officer for Somerset Place State History Site and is the Board Chairperson of the Somerset Place Foundation. Her great-great-great grandmother, Elsy Littlejohn, was a Somerset slave who was born in 1787.

# Budget Items Top Meeting Agenda

In accordance with the Association By-Laws, expenditures in excess of \$100 must be presented to the general membership for approval. There will be two such items presented at the Sunday, October 22, 1989 meeting. They are approval for:

1) \$500 to support the purchase of a camcorder

by the Wayne County Museum. The camcorder will be available for use by both the Association and the Museum but will primarily be used to record oral Histories of Wayne County. Purchase and custody will be handled by the museum staff.

2) \$125 to co-sponsor the presentation of

Dorothy Spruill Redford on January 28, 1990.

Both of these items received unanimous approval at the Board of Director's Meeting held Monday, October 9, 1989. The Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society appropriated \$125. for the co-sponsorship of Dorothy Redford.

## Grants Awarded to Local Teachers

First American Savings Bank has awarded two \$400 grants to area teachers to fund special projects of interest to the Wayne County Historical Association.

The money will enable the teachers to provide educational experiences that otherwise may not have been funded.

Grants were presented to:

\* Lorraine Ivey Kornegay for a project designed to give her 11th grade Southern Wayne High Humanities class a chance "to investigate early homes of Wayne County, their architectural styles, and parallel the growth of the county with American History."

In addition to classroom study of early local architecture the students will research

and choose one area home to study and prepare for a presentation. Scripts will be written and permission obtained for the class to visit the home and prepare a video. The results of this six-week project will become a part of the permanent history collection of Wayne County Schools.

\* Diana Freeman Parker for a project in which 7th and 8th grade students at Goldsboro Junior High School will prepare a video about Goldsboro and Wayne County. The video will be used in an exchange program with a school in Rockbridge, Ohio. The students will write a history of Goldsboro and record it on tape.

Charles B. Ellis and Ethel Twiford have already contracted these

teachers and plan to offer assistance in support of these programs. Mr. Ellis said, "I am very pleased to see interest in our local history. We need to continue working with our young people to insure they understand and appreciate our local heritage."

Mr. Ellis also said these projects were not in competition with the association's plans to publish an Architectural Inventory of Wayne County.

## New Members Announced

Two new members of the Association's Board of Directors were left out of the last newsletter. Bob and Janet Lesser of Fremont came on the board at the August meeting.

## Calendar of Events

Oct. 22, (Sun.) 3:00 p.m.  
Wayne County Historical  
Association Meeting, Wayne  
County Library Auditorium.

Oct. 22, (Sun.) 1:00 - 5:00  
p.m. North Carolina Museum of  
History present a Christmas  
Sale of Christmas past and  
presents.

Oct. 29, (Sun.) 2:00 p.m. N. C.  
Museum of History presents a  
display of historical post  
cards and 3:00 p.m. Old  
Raleigh: A History Through  
Postcards

Nov. 3, (Fri.) 1:00 p.m. The  
Federation of N. C. Historical  
Societies annual meeting is on  
"Historical Autobiography" to be  
held in Raleigh at the State  
Capitol.

Nov. 13, (Mon.) 7:30 p.m. Wayne  
County Historical Association  
Board of Directors Meeting,  
Wayne County Library Local  
History Room.

Nov. 17, (Fri.) through Jun. 10,  
1990 N. C. Museum of History  
presents Grand Constitution:  
Private and Public Freedom.

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### EDITOR'S NOTE

In order to get the news-  
letter out on time, please  
submit all articles by the  
deadline. The next deadline  
is November 1. Send any in-  
formation you can contribute  
for publication to P.O. Box  
665, Goldsboro, N.C. 27530,  
or call 242-4772.

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