

WAYNE ECHOES

The Newsletter of the Wayne County Museum

Fall 1990

Hamilton and Sauls Star in Museum Show

By Jean Powell

A blend of the serious and the frivilous resulted in an entertaining "Mary and Alice" show at the Wayne County Museum.

Mary McLeod Bethune, a pioneer black educator, 1875-1955, was portrayed by Goldsboro native, Geneva Bass Hamilton. Jewel Sauls played the role of Alice Roosevelt Longworth, the sometimes outrageous daughter of President Theodore Roosevelt.

The two narrators performed singly on the stage of the Museum's second-floor ballroom. This was one in the continuing series of Sunday afternoon programs presented in connection with the Museum exhibits. The current exhibit is the Permanent Collection. It opened in June and will close in January 1991.

Mary and Alice lived during the Victorian period. The current exhibit has numerous artifacts and items of clothing from this era.

"She's different.
She's the one." Mary Bethune was propelled by the encouragement of the family to get an education. "One hot day in September, 1887, saw me at the station going up to North Carolina to get my education at Scotia College in Concord.

"I had to build a school for Negro girls," and Mary founded Daytona Normal and Industrial School in Daytona, Fla. (later Bethune-Cookman College) in 1904. She served as its president until 1942.



Back from the honeymoon trip after her marriage to Nicholas Longworth, Alice visited "My fifth cousin Franklin and my first cousin Eleanor. The most boring couple," according to Jewel Sauls' monologue portraying Alice. Jewel's impersonation of Alice's impersonation of Eleanor was a highlight of the performance—buck teeth, voice inflection and all.

Jewel, however, did a creditable job of portraying Alice, Teddy Roosevelt's child who was reared by her stepmother Edith. The spoiled darling inspired a popular song in her youth, "Alice, Where Art Thou," because she traveled a lot.

Perhaps Alice's major contribution to society was her role as the American princess, a woman who until her death enjoyed being the President's daughter--and never let you forget it.

Mary Bethune left "hope, faith and a desire to live in harmony with your fellow man." Alice left a finely-honed sense of humor, an exaggerated sense of her own importance and an unpredictable lifestyle.

Volunteers Toil During Hot Summer

A special thank you to all the volunteers who have helped keep the Museum going this summer, including:

Ethel Barnhill Bessie Bell Virginia Bell Ernestine Bostic Mrs. John Boyd Orie Cooper Rose Cooper Polly Cryer Ruby Ehlers Dorothy Hardy Wilton Hollowell Rachel McKenzie Jim Morgan Mae Murray Ovelia Rockwell Berkeley Rutledge Eleanor Ward Harold Ward Blanche Williams Margaret Yelverton

The Golden K Kiwanis continue their support of the Museum by committing volunteers to staff the volunteer desk for one week each month.

Memorial Dedication

The dedication of a memorial flagpole to Vietnam casualty, Major Murray Lyman Borden, USAF, will be held Sunday, 2 p.m., Oct. 28 at the Museum.

Murray was the son of Arabel Zealy and the late Murray, Borden, Sr.

Invitations will be mailed to all members of the Museum.

Also appreciated are the special skills offered by our talented volunteers: Jim Morgan has drawn illustrations for the newsletter and Museum brochure; and Mae Murray donated her time to launder and mend some of the original Woman's Club draperies.

No mention of volunteers would be complete without recognizing June Wharton, who has spent countless hours working for the Museum. She is now recuperating from an operation and we all hope for her speedy recovery.

New Trustees Added to Board

Six new members have been added to the Museum's Board of Trustees replacing six who have completed their three-year terms.

New trustees are Richard F. Griswold, Jr., vice-chairman; Mrs. Donald L. Hatch, secretary; Randy Sauls, treasurer; Mrs. Hilda Culverwell, Budget and Finance Chairman; Mrs. James O'Rourke, co-chairman of the Furniture Exhibit committee; Mrs. Sterling D. Wooten, Acquisitions committee chairman.

Those who have finished their terms are Mrs. Charles Gaylor, Jr., David G. Green, Mrs. Cullen B. Hatch, Gary W. Partin, Mrs. C.W. Twiford and Mrs. James L. Williams.

Wayne County
Museum Trustees

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NEWSLETTER

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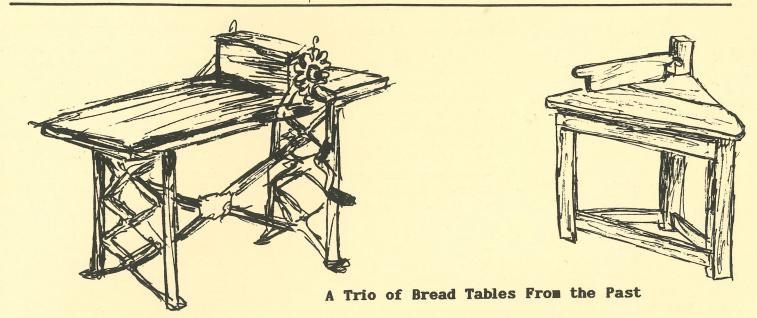
EXHIBIT HOURS

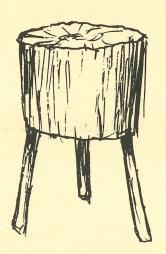
2-5 p.m. Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tues. 2 - 5 p.m. Wed. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Thurs. 2 - 5 p.m. Fri. 9 a.m. - noon

Susan G. Flanagan, Director





Three bread kneading tables are among the acquisitions donated to the Museum and are currently displayed in the Permanent Collection. The DeMuth Improved Dough Kneader and Beaten Biscuit Machine (top left) used by Mrs. Sally Borden of Wayne County was contributed by her daughter-in-law, Wilmer Borden. A kneading table of triangular design (top right) allowed it to be placed out of the way in a corner of the kitchen when it was not in use. Louise Wooten Talley gave the table (c. 1870) in memory of her father, Sterling D. Wooten. The biscuit table (c. 1850) is constructed in a simple design with a single-piece wooden top (lower left). The table was given by Mary and Andy Johnstone. Sketches were done by Jim Morgan.

Where Does the Money Go?

People generally want to know what their monetary contributions accomplish.

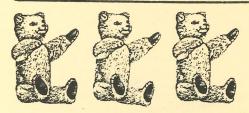
The 233 members of the Museum are no different and are entitled to know how the membership dues are used.

The budget covers the salary of part-time director, Susan Flanagan, who was hired in April.

Operating expenses claim a hefty portion,

including utilities, telephone, insurance, some maintenance (both interior and exterior, although part is either subsidized or materials/labor donated), office supplies, and inventory of items for the gift shop. Although volunteers provide many hours of time and effort in staging the Exhibits, minor expenses are involved.

Another new year will mean another membership drive. Dues are payable as early as Jan. 1, 1991. Plans are in the works to have membership cards printed, a first for the Museum. Each member also will receive a Museum brochure, as well as mailings of the newsletter and notices of special events.



Thanks in advance and a big bear hug to the would-be donors of a frame for a portrait, a piano, a high stool for the Gift Shop and a tape player.

A 40-inch by 70-inch frame is needed for a portrait of a Union soldier, donated by Vernon Mangum.

It need not be a Steinway grand--just in usable condition--but a piano is needed for various programs and receptions at the Museum.

Upcoming Events at the Museum

The gift shop will be stocking up on Christmas items. Of special note is a gold plated ornament designed just for the Museum; it should be available in November.

A Christmas open house is planned for December. It will be held in conjunction with the annual membership party. Members will be notified when details are finalized.

The furniture
exhibit opening is slated
for February, 1991.
Members knowing of
"museum quality" pieces-pertaining to our area
and handcrafted--are

encouraged to contact the Museum so a committee member may arrange to view and evaluate them.

A museum-sponsored tour, organized by Louise Wooten Talley, is planned for March to the Hope Plantation.

Educational Project

Wayne County Museum Young Associates will be organized in an effort to get young people involved in the Museum program.

Dolores Hayes, local high school history teacher, will work with Museum officials in formulating this educational project.



Wayne County Museum Cultural History of Central Eastern North Carolina Goldsboro, NC

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