



# WAYNE ECHOES

The Newsletter of the Wayne County Museum

VOL. 5, No. 1

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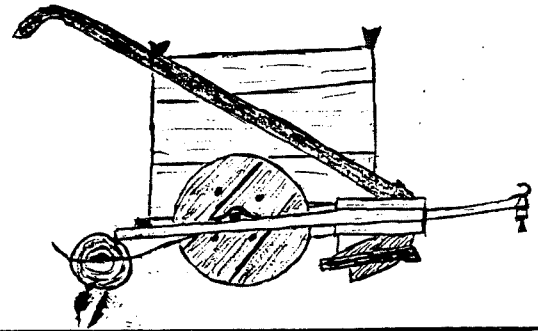
## New Exhibit Opens

The Museum was closed to visitors December 22 until the opening of the exhibit on Business and Industry in Wayne County on January 24, 1993. You will find many things of interest in the artifacts relating to occupations in our communities in days gone by.

A noteworthy collection of old agricultural implements reminds us of how labor-intensive farming was in earliertimes. Farm families were mostly self-sufficient. The whole family was needed to work the crops, tend the garden, milk the cows, gather the eggs, etc. The farm wife cooked, churned, canned, preserved, made clothes, and bascially ran an efficient house. The farmer not only prepared the land, planted and harvested, but also did carpentry, cut wood, tended animals, built fences, and performed many other tasks necessary for the survival of the family. A fascinating display of tools for these tasks is part of the exhibit, highlighted by sheep shears and a couple of cotton planters.

Wayne Agricultural Works manufactured many items other than those indicated by the company's name. Originally making farm implements, they branched out into decorative items such as brass andirons, cast iron statuettes used as doorstops, and a hitching post in the form of a jockey, all of which can be seen in the exhibit. T. J. Tolson, a former employee of the company, lent some of these items and provided helpful information.

COTTON SEED PLANTER



Three unusual items on display are: a framed warrant issued to Absalom Ellis in 1761 for a plantation on Apple Tree Swamp; a jug marked "Riverside Mfg Co. Fremont - Dealers in Fine Liquors; and a newspaper article with photo detailing the floatability of the Royall Mattress. The mattress stayed afloat for 48 hours, then held 5 people for the photo.

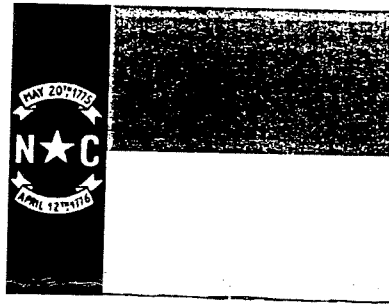
Other articles may be added which were unavailable for the opening. Not all older businesses responded to requests for artifacts, but you will find plenty to interest you here.

Charles Ellis is the chairman of this exhibit. He has been assisted by Elizabeth Ellis, Velda Faye Howell, Vera O'Rourke, and Dick Moffatt. Velda Faye, who is Education Chairman, has scheduled many school classes and other groups for tours during the late winter and spring. The exhibit will be continued until mid-May. Charles Ellis states that anyone wishing to donate artifacts to this exhibit may still do so by calling the museum at 734-5023.

## Black History Program

A mini-exhibit on Black History Month and a program entitled "Black Expressions" was the featured event for February. The mini-exhibit showcased many artifacts relevant to the Black experience in America, with particular emphasis on Black Educators in Wayne County. On February 21 a program was held in the main lobby by the Goldsboro High Choral Group and the Upcultural Dance group, who entertained guests with songs and native African dances. Mr. P. A. Best hosted the event that was enjoyed by all.

The success of the exhibit and the program was due to the efforts of our own Dorothy Hardy, who chaired the committee, and Eunice Hudson and Denise Fields, with technical expertise provided by Charles Ellis. The next time you happen to run into one of these hard-working people, greet them with a smile and a word of thanks for a job well done!



## New Director

A new face is greeting visitors to the Wayne County Museum. Director David McKeel has been on the job and learning the ropes since shortly before Christmas. He is a former English instructor at East Carolina University, and is currently teaching English at Wayne Community College. He has a BA degree in History and a Master's in English. Having done research on North Carolina folklore, he has many good qualifications in his background for this position to include interest,

initiative, imagination and patience. Come by and meet David soon!

Susan Flanagan, our former Director, has moved to England where her husband is presently stationed in the Air Force. She was a great asset to the Museum. We wish her the best in her future endeavors.

## Wayne County Museum Trustees

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Published by the  
Wayne County Museum  
116 N. William Street  
Goldsboro, N.C. 27530  
(919) 734-5023

Exhibit Hours:  
2 - 5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday  
and Sunday

Office Hours:  
Tuesday and Thursday  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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



*The boy at the guide-board.*

## Visiting Artist Performs

Cynthia Mitchell, Visiting Artist at Wayne Community College presented a delightful Christmas Program at the museum on December 18. She was accompanied by Marshall Lewis, music instructor at the College.

The program ranged from selections in the Medieval English period to modern American favorites as well as Spanish and French carols, with audience participation in some of the numbers. The dramatization of the third ghost and the "revelation" scene of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" and T. S. Eliot's "The Journey of the Magi" rounded out the program which concluded with a World War I poem entitled "Christmas in the Trenches," describing an actual incident of German and Allied troops meeting between the trenches in No-Man's Land, unarmed and under a flag of truce. The soldiers exchanged greetings and observed a voluntary cease-fire.

Another event in December was our second "Murder at the Museum" fundraiser. The Center Stage Players presented an original play titled "Murder Rocks the Reunion," set in 1959 at Goldsboro High School's Class of '54 reunion. Bobby socks, saddle shoes and pegged pants gave an authentic air to the performance - Lot's of fun!

## Jean Powell Memorials

Memorial gifts continue to come in for Jean Powell. Contributions now total \$100.00.

Gifts have been arriving from all over the country, proving how valuable a friend we have lost. Some of the early gifts have been received from the following:

Savitri Ahuja of Washington, D.C., M. Ann Cline of Bethesda, Maryland, Mrs. Sterling Wooten, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ellis.

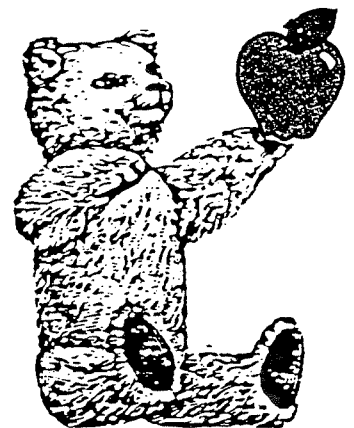
The Museum has indeed lost a good friend with the death of Jean Powell. After a distinguished career in newspaper work (she was Lifestyle Editor of the Washington, D.C. Star at one time), she returned to live in Goldsboro, and edited the Museum's Newsletter, making it so enjoyable and interesting - a little paper with a big-time flair. We will truly miss her.

## Your Dues Are Needed

Once again it is time to support your county museum. Your museum needs not only your volunteer time but also your monetary support, so be very generous when you think of the programs and exhibits your donation will help fund. We have an unique opportunity to grow bigger and better by collecting artifacts relevant to our history. Your donations also provide us to present programs that will entertain and educate young and old alike.

An envelope is provided for your convenience in sending your donation to the museum. Just place your check inside and stamp it and send it on its way. If you have any suggestions on a certain exhibit you would like to see or a particular

program emphasizing or highlighting a related historical event, then please slip a note to us and we will look into the possibility of presenting it in the museum. Thanks!



Artifacts donated recently to the Museum have been assessed by the Acquisitions Committee.

The majority of the contributions offered in the past few months have been accepted by Bertha Wooten, chairman, and her committee.

Acquisitions and donors include:

An Empire Sofa from Dr. John K. and Alma Wooten; white baby carriage - 1920's era, from Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cobb; a preaching coat, Bible and photograph of Elder Roberts, a Primitive Baptist Preacher, circa 1880's, from Mrs.

Cora Roberts; a Wayne Dairy Bottle, circa 1950, from M. W. McKeel; a framed picture of a N. C. State guard unit on the Goldsboro High School football field, circa 1944, from Mr. Bill Sheperd; a Rubber Stamp holder with stamps, circa 1910, from Mr. A. T. Griffin, Jr.; several handmade stockings, circa 1840's, from Mrs. Bessie Bell; two volume collection of old record albums of Faust, prior owners were the Goldmasquers, circa 1940's, from Mrs. Betty Corbett; two movie projectors, one circa 1930's or '40's, from the Paramount Restora-

tion Committee; and seven Black and White photographs of Goldsboro Cotillion, Circa 1947, from Weil Enterprises.

We would appreciate any help in identifying people in the various photos that we have collected. If you have lived in Wayne County for longer than ten years, or if you know of someone who might have some useful information, please give us a call or drop by. We would loved to see you sometime!



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