

We bring history to life!

Historically Speaking...

Quarterly Newsletter

SUMMER 2019



Back row: **Joe Hunt**, President; **Carol Becton**, **Mickey Miller**, Executive Director; **Jane Maulucci**, **Kimberly Tran**, 2019 Harriett Marks Scholarship recipient, **John Robert Mattocks**, **Ted Fridholm**. Front row: **Alma Gibbons**, **Gene Lock**, **Matt Arthur**, **Karen Bixler**, **Ken McCotter** (not present for photo: **Linda Cummings**, **Cathy O'Brien**, **Frank Bartholomew**)

From the Desk of the Executive Director

There's so much to celebrate here at the New Bern Historical Society, and we never miss an opportunity for a soiree! At the May 12 garden party, we welcomed dozens of our newest members and recognized our wonderful volunteers who work so hard to make the Society so successful. Our annual banquet on May 23 celebrated our many accomplishments this year - a great year of programs, our growing membership, and our ongoing recovery from Hurricane Florence. But especially, we honored **your** volunteer colleagues for their tremendous contributions over the years.

Summer is a time of transition – we welcomed new board member **Cathy O'Brien**, and recognized **John Robert Mattocks** for his tremendous contributions as Treasurer as he leaves the board after ten years. Finally, we ended the evening by announcing the retirement of the very special **Pat Traynor**, Assistant to the Director. See page 3 for a tribute to Pat.



Mickey Miller,
Executive
Director



New Board Member:
Cathy O'Brien

2019 AWARD HONOREES:

Matt Arthur, Ambassadorship Award
Frank Bartholomew, Battlefield Award
Carol Becton, Education Award
Karen Bixler, Newcomers Award

Linda Cummings, President's Award
Ted Fridholm, Newcomers Award
Alma Gibbons, Ambassadorship Award
Gene Lock, Battlefield Award

Ken McCotter, Lifetime of Service Award
John Robert Mattocks, Extended Service Award
Jane Maulucci, Executive Director's Award
Cathy O'Brien, President's Award



Jimmy Hodges

Tempus Fugit.....Curator's Corner...by Jim Hodges

If you had lived in New Bern in 1971, there is a good chance you would have seen an older gentleman walking around town with a camera taking photographs. Most likely, the man was A. D. Brooks. Unfortunately, I do not have much information about Mr. Brooks other than after his death, his son A. D. Brooks, Jr. gifted to the Historical Society five volumes of his father's New Bern photographs. This generous gift was transacted in 2005 and included hundreds of 8"x 10" black & white images as well as many older photographic copies documenting past times in New Bern. Color photography is certainly beautiful to behold, but black & white images seem to get to the core of the subject especially when the photographer has a creative and interpretative eye.

My role as Curator for the Historical Society for the past six years has given me the unique opportunity to immerse myself in New Bern's history through our extensive and diverse collection of over six thousand objects. The wide variety of photographs are an incredible resource that I refer to on a daily basis and share for presentations and exhibits. Even though our photographic collection is enhanced with new images on an ongoing yet occasional basis, I remind myself that the A. D. Brooks portfolio is almost fifty years old and that there is an urgent need to document New Bern's evolution today in the comprehensive manner that Mr. Brooks did. A basis for comparison is paramount especially when you fast forward fifty years from today.

A discussion with our Director, Mickey Miller, yielded a possible option with the local Coastal Photo Club. The club was organized in 1991 and has a membership of 124. I recently met with their president, John Steady, who expressed great enthusiasm on behalf of the membership. We both concluded that this would be a wonderful opportunity for the two organizations to interact with a resulting product that would benefit the community. The plan is to take it one step at a time focusing on downtown New Bern first. The Historical Society is very appreciative of The Coastal Photo Club's efforts and we look forward to a meaningful working relationship.



200 block of Middle Street View North

Battlefield Park News...by Jon Miller, Battlefield Adjutant

Our annual Harry Goodman Battlefield Adventure Day was a huge success in March with perfect weather! Heartfelt thanks go to our volunteers, NBHS staff, reenactors, and sponsors! Added this year were USCT reenactors courtesy of Tryon Palace, a cavalryman with horse and bugle, and an opportunity to become genuine Tar-Heels using **Bill Long's** home-made tar manufactured from battlefield pine! Be sure to come out to Battlefield Adventure Day *next* year!

Bill Long's display was so well-received that he presented it at the recent Jaycees special needs student Fair at the County Fairgrounds. Fellow battlefield volunteer **Gene Lock** worked with Bill to ensure all the students had access to this popular display.

Our regular group of volunteers at the battlefield have been busy reorganizing both our new and old sheds, cleaning out unwanted stuff that has accumulated over the years. They built shelves for loose items and hung hooks for our garden tools, resulting in lots of usable floor space that we hadn't seen in a while! This was a long-overdue project that makes it much easier to access what we need. Volunteers have also been busy upgrading the trail system thanks to a truckload of material donated by Board Member **Carl Huddle**. Another generous donation from Society member **Alan Craig** will replace many trail timbers that keep the trail material neatly in place. We've purchased a pallet of timbers and have already replaced quite a few with many more to go!

A local Boy Scout, **John Childs** of Troop 132, completed his project needed for advancement to Eagle Scout: building an elevated walkway over wetland near Redan 1. John was responsible for raising funds to purchase materials, organizing work groups of fellow scouts, friends and adults, and getting the whole project constructed. He did a great job and it will provide visitors in that area a means to cross an area that frequently sees a lot of mud! Kudos to John!



Jon Miller



Educational Programs



Lunch & Learn: Prepaid reservations which include lunch and presentation must be made through the New Bern Historical Society office, 252-638-8558 or through our website: www.newbernhistorical.org. Members, \$17; non-members, \$22.

- **Wednesday, July 10, Mark Sandvigen** will be our featured **Lunch & Learn**. His **ENCORE** presentation of **A Distant Mirror: Craven County and Reflections on the Great War 1917-1920** is not about dates and battles but how the War brought changes in almost everything.
- For **Lunch & Learn** on **Wednesday, September 11, Stan Allen** presents **North Carolina's Mystery Tribe-The Neusiok**. The Neusiok, later known as the Neuse Indians, lived on the south side of the Neuse River in what are now Craven and Pamlico counties. You'll find out who the Neusiok were, where they lived, what happened to them and if there are any descendants of that tribe today.
- **Lore Lecture Series, Sunday, November 17, 2pm**. This year's exciting speaker, **author and blogger Scott Huler** will entertain us with stories about **The Lawson Trek**. In 1700, John Lawson's travels became **A New Voyage to Carolina in 1709**. In 2014, Scott Huler took his own journey by foot and canoe, faithfully retracing Lawson's route through the Carolinas. You'll hear about Scott's findings and the parallels between Lawson's time and our own. **Reservation details TBA in August.**

Historical Society President's Message

The Historical Society has two groups of volunteers that meet each Monday morning - Earth Angels Garden Volunteers and the Honey-do-Team, which helps keep the Attmore-Oliver Campus in shape by repairing items, small painting jobs and heavy pruning. These two groups work year around weather permitting. Because of the size of the campus - several buildings and a large garden area - it is challenging to maintain. Hurricane Florence added repair projects to an already long list.

Monday May 6, 12 high school students from Epiphany School came to our campus on their community outreach day to volunteer along side by side with our regular helpers. Within six hours an amazing transformation took place. The garden was weeded, the new wooden fence was washed, a 100 foot long hedge was trimmed, two large holly trees were cut back, a large azalea bed was trimmed, leaf debris was cleared, raked and bagged. Epiphany students went about their work with a cheerful attitude, listened to instructions and carried out their assignments. This group of students made their school and parents proud with their attitude, diligence and work ethic. We were privileged to have their help.



Joe Hunt
President, Board of Directors
New Bern Historical Society

Harriett Marks Scholarship Recipient



Scholarship Committee Member Mary Parrish announces Kimberly Tran, 2019 Scholarship recipient

Congratulations to our **2019 Harriett Marks Scholarship Winner Kimberly Thi Tran**, daughter of Thann and Suong Tran. Kimberly was Valedictorian of the 2019 New Bern High School class, and simultaneously received an Associate Degree from Craven Community College as she graduated from New Bern High School. She will attend UNC-Chapel Hill as a freshman in the fall. Our other **Marks Scholars** will be back on campus for the 2019-2020 academic years: NC State sophomore **Kayla Grace RuthAnne Hardee**, Wright State University junior **Gretchen Deters** and UNC-Asheville senior **Caroline Vieregge**. The Historical Society awards the renewable scholarship each year through an application process based on academic merit and financial need. Miss Harriett Marks established the trust fund for this scholarship as part of her estate to a graduating New Bern High School senior.

Did you know?...by Claudia Houston, Historian



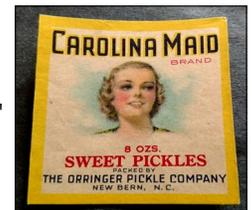
Claudia Houston

So many people within our community share information and ask questions about landmarks, homes and businesses in New Bern that no longer exist. We love researching and sharing those histories with others, particularly our membership.

Who remembers the Orringer Pickle Factory that was located here in New Bern? This photo, sent to us by long time New Bern Historical Society members Joan and Steve Shaffer, is a label from *Carolina Maid* pickles from the 1930's. Joseph Orringer first immigrated from Austria to Pittsburgh, and then moved to New Bern where he founded the Orringer Pickle Factory circa 1929. The company had two locations: the offices and processing facilities were at 400 Cypress Street and just around the corner, on the east side of Cypress Street, cucumber pickles, purchased from local farmers were packed in huge open vats on Pasteur Street. The brined cucumbers were withdrawn and processed into a variety of pickle products sold under the "Carolina Maid" label. At one time, the company was the only pickle plant within a 100 mile radius and processed 70,000 bushels of vegetables and employed fifty people.

In the postwar years the company was run by Joseph's two sons, Leon and Harold. They no longer were in the consumer pickle business but sold brined cucumbers to other companies for their use in branded products. The Company was in business from 1929-1963 when it was sold. (And no, it was not sold to the Mt. Olive Pickle Company.)

Thanks to **Richard McEnally** for his history of the company. (2016 *New Bern Historical Society Journal* "New Bern's Jewish Businesses off Middle Street in the Postwar Years") and special thanks to **Joan and Steve Shaffer** for sharing this piece of New Bern and family history as Harold Orringer was Joan's father.



A Salute to Pat Traynor

Farewells never easy... saying goodbye to someone as special as **Pat Traynor** is more than difficult. For ten years Pat has been the heart and soul of this great Historical Society family: the institutional memory who has all the answers, the cheerful and patient voice on the end of the phone, the droll comedian who keeps us rolling during even the hardest times. We are so thankful for all that Pat has brought to this team - not just the skills she honed in her prior career in education, but especially her tremendous warmth and genuine affection for everyone from the newest member to the most seasoned board president. Fortunately, Pat won't be going far; in fact, she has generously agreed to help out as a volunteer with Ghostwalk. Pat, warm thanks and best wishes from the entire membership!



Pat Traynor

Board of Directors

2018-2020 Officers

Joe Hunt, President
Kathy Morrison, First Vice-President
Egon Lippert, Second Vice-President
Chris Kelso, Secretary
Jim Morrison, Treasurer
Jon Miller, Battlefield Adjutant
Claudia Houston, Historian
Jim Hodges, Curator

2019-2020 Directors

Joe Anderson
Carol Becton
Clayton Cheek
Susan Cook
Breck Gibbs
Lynne Harakal
Carl Huddle
Cheryl Lawrence
Ken McCotter
Nelson McDaniel
Susan Moffat-Thomas
Cathy O'Brien
Gerri Olvaney
Patti Urick
Karen Whitmore

Emeritus

Mary Bullock
Nancy Chiles
Karen Norman

Administrative Staff

Mickey Miller—Executive Director
Pat Traynor—Assistant to the Director
Karen Bixler—Admin. Assistant
Sue Dunn—Admin. Assistant

CALENDAR

Thurs., July 4, **July 4 Holiday** office closed
Wed., July 10, **Lunch & Learn, Mark Sandvigen Encore, World War I**
Wed., July 24, **Ghostwalk Auditions, Attmore-Oliver House**
Mon., Sept. 2, **Labor Day Holiday** office closed
Wed., Sept. 11, **Lunch & Learn, Stan Allen, North Carolina's Mystery Tribe-The Neusiok**
Thurs., Oct. 10, **Lunch & Learn, Speaker/ Topic TBA**
Thurs.-Sat., **Oct. 24-26, Ghostwalk 2019**
Sun., Nov. 17, **Lore Lecture Series, Scott Huler, The Lawson Trek**
Wed., Dec. 11, **Lunch & Learn, Carol Becton, The Great Fire of 1922**
Jan. 23-Feb. 2, **HONOUR, the Musical, details TBA**



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:
JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST,
MON.-THURS., 10 am-4 pm
FRI., 10 am-1 pm

OFFICE LOCATION:
Attmore-Oliver House
511 Broad Street
New Bern, NC 28560

Phone: 252-638-8558
Website: www.newbernhistorical.org
director@newbernhistorical.org
adminoffice@newbernhistorical.org

OFFICE HOURS FOR THE PUBLIC:
Monday through Friday
10 am to 4 pm

Thank you to our generous event sponsors during this past year:

\$3500 +
Neuse River Region Association of REALTORS

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Chesnutt, Clemmons & Peacock, PA
Morgan's Tavern & Grill
Sun Journal

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Jim Hodges

\$1000 +
C-21 Zaytoun-Raines
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The Chelsea Restaurant
Trader Construction
Trent River Realty
WCTI 12
WITN 7

Ghostwalk 2019 October 24, 25, 26!

*"Spirited Skirts
& the Shadows They Cast"*

Auditions for 'actors/ghosts' will be held
Wednesday, July 24, 6 pm
at the Attmore-Oliver House.
'Cold reading.'
No prepared monologue required.



The Founders Circle: New Bern is a unique town with a noteworthy history, and it has a story worth preserving and telling today and to future generations. The New Bern Historical Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2023 and we fully intend to be here another 100 years, bringing history to life and celebrating New Bern. We want to continue to make a lasting impression on our residents and visitors, alike, and if our town, its history, the Historical Society, and relationships you've formed here are important to you, we hope you will consider including the New Bern Historical Society in your estate plans. The "Founders Circle" recognizes individuals who have included us in those plans, and we invite you to join them. You can contact Mickey Miller to find out more about our endowment investment options, or to notify us if your estate plans already include us.

Note: We cannot render tax or legal advice. Please consult your professional financial advisor before making a charitable gift.