



Historically Speaking

Quarterly Newsletter 2020

july • august • september

Celebrate!

Our 2020 Volunteer Award Winners

The strength of any non-profit organization comes from the time and commitment of its volunteers. Although we were unable to have our Annual Meeting where we present awards, we were still able to honor your volunteer colleagues for their wonderful contributions this year. Join us in congratulating these terrific volunteers - the heartbeat of our great team!

Ambassadorship Award



Paula Quinn

Left: Sydney Basden, Terri Hickman, Cheryl Jukich & Carole Graham

Susan Fuleihan

Our Administrative Office Volunteer Team are wonderful ambassadors for the Society. On the front lines at the office, they greet visitors, answer questions, sell tickets, help with mailings and so much more, always with professionalism and a warm smile.



Battlefield Award is presented to **Jonathan Segal** for his vision, leadership, and generous support of the Battlefield Park audio tour project.

Education Award is given to **Bill Hand** for presenting New Bern's history to the public through the extraordinarily creative play Honour, The Musical.



Extended Service Award is proudly given to **Carl Huddle**, board member from 2014-2020, for his tremendous support across many fronts, particularly in the development and maintenance of Battlefield Park.



President's Award



Director's Award is presented to the energetic and talented **Nancy Hitchcock** for her outstanding support as Ghostwalk director and producer for Honour, The Musical.

Richard Wolcott "Woolie" McEnally distinguished himself as the Historical Journal editor. His leadership and commitment to the Journal are deeply appreciated, and his generous support will ensure that the Journal will tell New Bern's most important stories far into the future.

Newcomer's Award

Newcomers **Lori Favre** and **Jay DeLoach** wasted no time becoming invaluable team members. Lori jumped into Ghostwalk as cemetery operations director and a terrific script writer. Jay has contributed a presentation and article, and has taken over the reins as Historical Journal editor.



Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless. Sherry Anderson



Historical Society President's Message...Joe Hunt

The New Bern Historical Society is where memories are made and, through our storytelling, we give you a window into the past.

Stop by the heritage garden and feel the tranquility and peace of its beauty. If you are looking for a longer stroll then visit our Battlefield Park. Enjoy the wonders of nature as you walk through the forest setting complete with trails, bridges and panels that give a bit of our history.

We hope and pray that each of you are doing well and have found creative ways to go about your life during the pandemic. When restrictions are loosened, please consider volunteering for and participating in upcoming events.

During this challenging time, even our Board of Directors has had to adapt to the health restrictions. As you can see, board meetings are now held by video conferencing. Your resilient Historical Society Board making history!



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

The pandemic has had an unexpected effect on the New Bern Battlefield Park...we've had a very large increase in the number of daily visitors. Whether it's families with kids home all the time, people with reduced hours or no work to go to, or just people having more time on their hands, they've been flocking to the battlefield in record numbers!

Social distancing hasn't stopped our volunteers from coming out though. Picking up the trash, cleaning the restrooms and maintaining the trails are as important as ever. A huge thanks to **Gene Locke, John Wright, Frank Bartholomew, Don Ingraham, Bill Long and Rod Rhodes** for their steadfastness and hard work over these last few months.



Gene brought his power washer out and cleaned up the visitor center, cannon display, main entrance sign, brick wall, and road gate supports. Quite a bit of crud that had accumulated over the years. All of the volunteers have had a hand in trying to keep our road passable which is difficult to do in the rainy season. The potholes just keep coming back and to fill them we dig dirt from a berm and transport it to the road. Unfortunately, the berm fills up with water each time it rains and needs to be bailed out! Check out John, Gene, Rod and Bill in the photo!

Katie Shorter has been busy writing the scripts for the Audio Tour app I told you about in the last newsletter. She has been working with the app developers to put together not only the words but the pictures and music that will be used in the final product. At this point we are ready to start recording the many voices that will be used. We hope to have a beta version of the app this summer.

2020 Harriett Marks Scholarship

Congratulations to our **2020 Harriett Marks Scholarship winner Kimberly Cusack**. She is the daughter of Deborah Cusack.

Kimberly has demonstrated academic excellence by her rank in class and by taking honors, Advanced Placement, and college courses. She has been involved in a number of school and community activities such as organizer and instructor for the New Bern High School Summer Art Program, participant in the NBHS Theatre, member of the National Honor Society, participant at the NC Governor's School in Visual Arts, artist for Beyond the Diagnosis Art Nonprofit, and volunteer for True Justice International.

Kimberly will attend East Carolina University in Greenville in the fall and continue her studies in the field of art.

Our other **Marks Scholars** will be back on campus for the 2020-2021 academic years: UNC at Chapel Hill sophomore **Kimberly Tran**, North Carolina State University junior **Kayla Hardee**, and Wright State University senior **Gretchen Deters**. The Historical Society awards this renewable scholarship each year through an application process based on academic merit and financial need. Harriett Marks established the trust fund for this scholarship as part of her estate to a graduating New Bern High School senior.



Kimberly Cusack & Mary Parrish, Scholarship Committee Member

Message from Mickey Miller, Executive Director

One of the things we've learned through the pandemic is that change is *hard* for a nearly century old organization whose entire mission is based on history. But we're all about turning challenges into opportunities. Since you can't come to us for live programming, we're going to deliver to you! Beginning this summer you'll be seeing more of our programming go **virtual** - online through our website and Facebook page.



Our most popular programs return!

Watch them free of charge online on our Facebook page. The speakers will be on hand for your questions and comments via Facebook as you watch.

[Facebook.com/NewBernHistoricalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/NewBernHistoricalSociety)

New Bern Then & Now by Curator Jim Hodges - July 8 at 2pm

The Great Fire of 1922 by Carol Becton - July 15 at 2pm

The Story of Ghent by John Leys - July 22 at 2pm

Downtown New Bern Renaissance by Susan Moffat-Thomas - July 29 at 2pm

Watch for more virtual programming later this summer, including the crowd favorite, **Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Deeds.**

Tee It Up Fore History!

Inaugural NBHS Golf Tournament Fundraiser

4 hole-in-one prizes, including a new car!

Details and registration on our website.

Hole sponsors needed - please call the office if you can help!

New Bern Historical Society Board of Directors

2020-2021 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

2020-2021 Directors

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

Administrative Staff

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

Welcome Aboard

We warmly welcome **Walt Teasdale** as our newest member of the Board of Directors.

Walt and his wife Cindy have been active volunteers with the Historical Society since 2017. Walt has been instrumental as chair of the ABC Sale and with Ghostwalk logistics. This year he stepped up and offered to organize and lead our inaugural golf tournament. With that kind of commitment, Walt will be a great addition to the Society's leadership.



Save the date - October 22-24 for the 30th Anniversary Ghostwalk

Planning is underway for an exciting **30th Anniversary Ghostwalk!** Expect some changes to our annual signature fundraising event and beloved New Bern tradition. This year's all-outdoor event will center on everyone's favorite venue, Cedar Grove Cemetery, where charming historical characters will share their spirited tales. Smaller size groups, proper distancing, paperless ticketing and other measures will help to keep everyone safe.



*Not ready to go out yet? No worries - a **virtual Ghostwalk** will also be available online!*



Summer Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 10am - 4pm
Fridays 10am - 1pm (July & August) 10am - 4pm (September)

511 Broad Street • New Bern, NC 28560 • 252.638.8558

www.newbernhistorical.org

Mickey Miller / director@newbernhistorical.org
Admin Staff / adminoffice@newbernhistorical.org

The Historical Society is proud of the relationships we have developed over the years with the local business community and thank them for their continued sponsorship of our events. We ask you to support our business partners who generously contribute to the New Bern Historical Society.

Title Sponsor - Honour, The Musical &
Spectral Sponsor - 2019 Ghostwalk

Title Sponsor
2019 Ghostwalk



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LEAVE A LEGACY FOR THE NEW BERN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ATTMORE-OLIVER HOUSE & GARDENS AND NEW BERN BATTLEFIELD PARK.
...AND LET US SAY "THANK YOU!" TODAY!

Leave your legacy! Legacy giving, often referred to as "planned giving," is a donation made through a will or other formal designation. Legacy gifts are typically prepared with a financial planner and are meant to reflect the values and desires of the donor. As the name suggests, most donors want to leave a legacy or memory of their life through their posthumous giving.

Legacy giving can take several forms, including recurring donations that begin while the donor is alive and continue after they're deceased. And legacy gifts don't have to be monetary, either. They can include material goods, property, stocks—anything that's of value to the beneficiary.

The founders of the New Bern Historical Society sought to "preserve for future generations, the wealth of historical material found in New Bern," and we remain dedicated to that goal, looking to celebrate our 100th year in 2023! The Founders Circle not only salutes the founders' foresight, it celebrates those who continue their efforts through legacy gifts. If you have questions or are interested in joining the Founders Circle, please contact the Executive Director, Mickey Miller.