



Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

P.O. Box 623, Carolina Beach, North Carolina 28428

Newsletter

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Darlene Bright, editor

June Meeting

The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, June 18th, **6:30 pm**, instead of 7:30 pm, at the Federal Point History Center, 1121-A North Lake Park Blvd., adjacent to Carolina Beach Town Hall.

Our next meeting will be our annual membership picnic. Please bring a favorite dish to share with the group. Paper products and drinks will be provided. This is always a wonderful time to visit with old friends, but also, a great time to introduce new people. PLEASE bring a friend or neighbor who might be interested in joining.

Best of all Elaine Henson will be signing her *very* new book **A Postcard History Series: Carolina Beach**, all evening. Start your Christmas purchasing NOW.

Annual Election

June is also the month of our annual elections. The nominating committee has met and has a slate of officers and board members to present to the membership at our June meeting. They are also accepting additional nominations for any office. If you know of anyone who wants to actively serve the Society call a member of the nominating committee: John Gordon, Darlene Bright, or Cheri McNeill before June 18. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the June meeting, 6:30 pm on June 18 at the History Center.

Last Month

Ray Flowers, historian at the Fort Fisher Museum spoke on Confederate Colonel William Lamb and Union General Newton Martin Curtis's recollections of the battle for Fort Fisher in December 1864 and January 1865. Ray's extensive research became obvious as he spoke on the various events surrounding the battle and the relationship between the participants. Ray introduced a forthcoming book by our society on the subject.

Message From Your President

Judy Rhudy Thompson

I look forward to seeing all of you at our annual "membership potluck/picnic" June 18, at 6:30 pm. Don't forget to invite all your friends and tell them about our Society.

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the Cape Fear River Bald Head Island historic cruise. Jack Fryar, John Golden, and Leslie Bright pointed out over 50 historic sites along the way. Let's not forget Cheri McNeill, Darlene Bright, and Rebecca Taylor for the many hours of coordination and attention to details that made the trip such a great success.

Come to the June meeting prepared to vote for our officers and board members for next year and then we'll get to the business of picknicking!

Local History by the Pound

By Rebecca Taylor

This month's meeting is our annual potluck, and I've been trying to decide what to bring. Maybe I will bring something from my Iowa-born, Home Economics teacher Grandmother Taylor's recipe files which I inherited. Or I might cook something from my mother's Pennsylvania Dutch by way of Central Ohio heritage. Or I might bake something from my tattered and torn **Clinton Junior Women's Club Cookbook**, from which I learned my first real Southern recipes. Is anyone up for "Pig Pick'in Cake" or "Cheese Biscuits"?

Then I spotted the two cookbooks we have on sale in the History Center gift shop. Ann Hertzler's **Modern Recipes from Historic Wilmington** is a wonderful guide to historic homes in Wilmington. Signed copies are \$18.00. **The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society Cookbook**. Published in 1997 it's practically a historic document by now and sells for 8.50. They joggled my memory about all the great local cookbooks I've seen and used over the years. I thought I'd share a few of my favorites...

I think the first North Carolina historic cookbook I discovered after I moved to Clinton in 1976 was Dawn O'Brian's **NORTH CAROLINA'S HISTORIC RESTAURANTS AND THEIR RECIPES** (Blair, 1983). Covering 50 North Carolina restaurants from Clawson's in Beaufort to the Daniel Boone Tavern in Boone, this combination history, travel guide, and cookbook is a fascinating trip across the state. The Lower Cape Fear is represented by Poplar Grove's "Aunt Betty's Coconut Pie" and Stemmermans's "Sour Cream Chicken" along with a bit of Wilmington history about the tunnels running from underground warehouses to the waterfront.

CLASSIC SOUTHPORT COOKING: RECIPES AND REMINISCENCES by Lewis J. Hardee Jr. (Southport Historical Society, 2005) is another work that is far more than just a collection of local recipes. Full of stories about local residents, many with photos, as well as stories about local historical events and locales, it even includes a number of recipes from the 1800's. Anyone want to try "Turtle Soup" from the **CAROLINA HOUSEWIFE** published in 1847?

For those who like to try historic recipes, I found the most fascinating little book in the Local History Room at the Main Library downtown. **A Tryon Palace Trifle; or, eighteenth century cookery, inc. with which is combined sundry interesting accounts of colonial life, including... various other matters having to do with the life of our North Carolina colonial ancestors published by the Tryon Palace Commission**. I guess that about explains it all. The year is listed as MCMLX which, if my translation is correct, is 1960.

It seems like just about everyone from church groups to schools to heritage associations have put out a collection of recipes. If you want to see the wide diversity of our local groups, Beverly Tetterton has collected a large number of them in the Local History Room. Plan to spend a day if you make the trip!

My personal favorite of all the local books is **The Cook's Canvas** produced by the St. John's Museum of Art in 1996. With a glorious Minnie Evans cover and reproductions of works in the museum's collection from Mary Cassatt to Claude Howell even the recipes take on a classy flair. I've given several copies of this beautiful book to out-of-town family who don't quite "get" why I love Wilmington's combination of Southern heritage, cosmopolitan interests, and love of culture high and low.

Old North State Fact Contest

Are you smarter than a 5th grade history student? We forgot to hold our contest on the first question last month so we're going to give everyone TWO chances to win this month. One of these questions is easy and one is hard. Be sure to put your answers in the basket on the desk by the computer this month.

Question 1: What are North Carolina's two official state colors?

Question 2: What is the newly named North Carolina State Theater?

Society Notes

● **Membership Information:** A Big Welcome (and Thank You) to Debbie Price who is taking over as our New Membership Chair. “As the new Membership Chairperson, I need your help to not only maintain current membership numbers, but to add new members. As you know, additional members bring helping hands and new ideas. Invite someone to each month’s meeting. We also depend on our business community for their support to our Society. Please encourage any of your business contacts to join us. If you will provide business and contact names, I will contact them personally.”

We are pleased to welcome two new members this month, **John Gregory** of Kure Beach and **Gayle Keresey** of Wilmington. **Renewal Notices** are sent on the anniversary of your joining the Society. We appreciate your prompt payment, saving the Society the expense of additional postage to send out a reminder. As dues invoices are mailed, we will be requesting an update on your personal information (address, phone, email address, etc). When you receive your next invoice, please take the time to verify your data and return the information form with your check.

Support our Business Members!

A & G Barbeque and Chicken
Austin & Son Garage, Inc.
BB&T
Bank of America
Britt’s Donut Shop
Coastal K-9 Bakery, Inc.
Fort Fisher Restoration Committee
Friends of Brunswick Town
Got-Em-On-Live Bait Club
Hanover Iron Works, Inc.
Historical Society of Topsail Island
Laney Real Estate Company
Pleasure Island Chamber of Commerce
Dr. Vincent Smith, DDS
Snow’s Cut Monthly Magazine
Taylor’s Heating & Air, Inc.
Tucker Bros. Realty Company

● **Plan now for our July 16th meeting.** The speaker will be Chris Southerly a Department of Cultural Resources underwater archeologist who will give us an update on interesting new finds from the underwater site of Blackbeard’s fabled ship the QUEEN ANNE’S REVENGE.

● **Newsletters:** If you wish to **receive** your FPHPS newsletter electronically, please send an email request to fphps@yahoo.com. To ensure that your message is not overlooked, please put the word “NEWSLETTER” in the subject line. Our email list just passed the 30 mark – that’s a savings to the Society of over \$12 each month and an added convenience to our members.

● **History Center News!** May 2007 volunteers at the History Center include Ron Griffin, Jeannie Gordon, Sylvia Snook, Dick and Nancy Graham, Darlene and Leslie Bright, Lois Taylor, and Elaine Henson. They helped a total of 52 visitors. THANKS so much. Now take a look at your July schedule. I’ll be trying to fill the July Saturdays at the potluck.

We’ve started a big new project. In a joint project with the Local History Room of the New Hanover County Public

Library we are doing the computer input on the Bill Reaves Federal Point files which take up three big boxes! When it’s done we will have a computer searchable file of people, places, and events happening in the Federal Point environs dating back to the 1761. Beverly says we can post it on our “web site.” So now we need to find someone to help us get our web site going! If you are available to type data into a WORD file please call Rebecca (on Fridays) or leave a message on the History Center phone, 458-0502.

Officers

President – Judy Thompson
Vice-President - John Gordon
Secretary – Ann Hertzler
Treasurer - Jeannie Gordon

Pat Bolander
Donna Godkey
Ron Griffin

Directors

James Dugan
John Gordon
Jay Hockenbury

Ray Flowers
Richard Graham
Sylvia Snook

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