



Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

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Newsletter

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March, 2008

Darlene Bright, editor

March Meeting Monday March 17, 2008

The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 17th, at 7:30 pm at the Federal Point History Center, 1121-A North Lake Park Blvd., adjacent to Carolina Beach Town Hall. Members and the general public are cordially invited. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

The speaker for our March meeting will be Doug Springer, the Cape Fear Riverkeeper. After working on hydrographic survey projects in the Gulf of Mexico and for the US Army Corps of Engineers in South Carolina, he worked for Hitachi Data Systems for over 20 years.

In October of 2006, he retired from that career and started Northeast Cape Fear Charters and Exploration, Inc. His business and boat, the Lorelei, are located on the Wilmington Riverwalk. They provide nature and historic charters of the Northeast Cape Fear River as well as other custom charters.

In July 2007, Doug accepted the position of Executive Director / Cape Fear Riverkeeper for Cape Fear River Watch, Inc. This is an environmental non-profit organization that focuses on the health of the Cape Fear River and its tributaries.



Doug will present an overview of the organization and the vision it strives toward. Doug will also highlight the programs and projects that the organization is currently working on and entertain any questions about the organization and the river itself. This is an amazingly active group and everyone interested in the health and well-being of the Cape Fear River and all the creatures we share it with will find this program inspiring.

Thursday March 20, 2008 Walking Tour With Dr. Chris Fonvielle!

Remember Our Walking Tour! On Thursday, March 20, 2008, a walking tour of Civil War earthworks associated with the Sugar Loaf Defenses on Federal Point will be conducted at 2:00 pm. Participants should wear something fitting for the bush (long pants and tough shoes) and be prepared to walk approximately 1 ½ hours.

Dr. Chris Fonvielle will describe the features and talk about the defense by the Confederates and assault on the Sugar Loaf works by the Union after the fall of Fort Fisher.

The group will meet in the parking lot next to the History Center and prior sign-up is not required. We have been asked by several people who cannot attend if we would video-tape the walk and Leslie will do the best he can, depending on the weather.

For more info, call 458-0502 – leave message.

Last Month

We had a great turn out for Judge Hockenbury's talk, "Chaplains in the Confederacy: Spiritual Revival Among the Troops." Along with his wife, Deborah, they re-enacted a simple prayer meeting including familiar hymns and a thought provoking sermon on the evils of strong drink, strong language, and the theft of the neighbor's chickens. Judge Hockenbury followed with a fascinating paper on the role of the chaplain service, primarily in the Army of Northern Virginia, but encompassing the entire Confederate forces. This was a new topic to the most dedicated Civil War buffs and even the members who sometimes get tired of "re-fighting the War battle-by-battle enjoyed this look at the everyday life of the common soldier. As Judge Hockenbury said: "There are no atheists when bullets are headed for you."

"Be a Tourist in Your Own Home Town" A Big Success! March 2, 2008

We had a great turnout for "Be a Tourist in Your Own Home Town," greeting and sharing the History Center's resources with a total of 25 visitors. Darlene, Leslie, and Pat Bollander "worked the crowd" and Sylvia made sure the refreshments were tasty and plentiful. There was a good deal of interest in Seafreeze and Darlene commented that we need to begin working on a companion pamphlet to our Carolina Beach and Kure Beach ones. We also had several young people discover the books on pirates in the gift shop; one enthusiastic boy was overheard to exclaim, "I didn't know we had pirates HERE!"

English Influence in Early American

Editors Note: *Extracted from "The Federal Union," by John D. Hicks, 1937.*

The United States, alone among the great powers of the World, has a background of dependency upon another power. The colonial period lasted a long while. From the founding of Jamestown to the Declaration of Independence was as many years as from the Declaration of Independence to the end of the Second World War. The imprint of the Mother Country, England, upon the American nation was therefore deep and abiding. After the union with Scotland in 1603 it is proper to speak of the nation on which the American colonies were dependent as Great Britain, rather than England, but the predominant part played by England and Englishmen in laying the colonial foundations well justifies the continued use of the words England and English. The English language became the American language. English ideas on government and politics, on religion and morality, on literature and art, on business and education, long dominated American thought.

It is a mistake to assume, however, that the United States was solely the offspring of England. Not Great Britain alone, but all the nations of western Europe were seized about the same time with the same urge for expansion, and for many years the competition for colonies in America was keen. The Spanish and the Portuguese long claimed a monopoly of the New World, but the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 broke this grip, and ushered in a period of unbridled competition. As a result, the domination of Spain and Portugal was gradually restricted to most of South America and parts of southern North America, while the English, the French, the Dutch, and even the Swedes fought for the rest. The marks left by these various colonial conflicts

have never been fully erased. The United States has within its limits today descendants of all these early colonial groups, and the institutions they brought with them from the continent of Europe have indelibly affected the institutions of English-speaking America. There have been many immigrants, too, of non-English blood, and the first great wave of such immigration came in the late colonial period from northern Ireland and the German Palatinate.

One conspicuous difference between the English colonial foundations and those of their chief competitors was the greater emphasis of the English upon individual initiative. The English colonies in North America were not founded by the government directly, but by trading companies or individuals (proprietors), armed with authority by the state. Oddly enough, the stock-holders and the proprietors generally lost heavily on their investments, but their activities provided the first great impetus to settlement in British North America.

Geography had much to do with the course of early American development. The fact that there were so many different colonies stemmed in part from the broken character of the Atlantic coastline, which invited separate establishments. Good harbors promoted trade, forests supported shipping, the ocean highway maintained connections with the Mother Country. Geography also helps maintained connections with the Mother Country. Geography also helps account for sectionalism. The colonies had too varied economic interests for all of them to develop along the same lines. The tremendous possibilities of western expansion made for further differences. The frontier first became a section in its own right, then as one frontier succeeded another, the West became a series of new sections. The Appalachian barrier held back the advance of the English settlers for a time, but when they finally did break through, the sparse and scattered French had no chance to turn them back. The constantly shifting environment did much also to modify Old World institutions, and to emphasize more and more the difference between Englishmen and Americans.

It never occurred to the English settlers who came to America, or to their descendants, that because they lived outside England they had lost their traditional rights as Englishmen. Colonial governments grew up in the same pattern as the English model, with only such changes as the new environment and new conditions seemed to require. The colonists demanded from their governments, and for the most part received from them, the same privileges and immunities that they would have enjoyed had they lived in England. Each colony tended, indeed, to think of itself as a little England, and to resent, sometimes to the point of obstruction, British efforts at control. But British officials, who were interested in achieving a well-coordinated and economically self-sufficient empire, took a different view. They claimed for their government full imperial rights, and induced it, particularly through the Navigation Acts, to lay down the most painstaking regulations for the Americans to follow. Consciously or unconsciously, the Colonists weighed the irritations of British control against the benefits of British protection. As long as the French remained in Canada, the need of aid from the British government in the emergency of war was great, and imperial control was accepted as a necessary make-weight for imperial defense. But when French rule in North America came to an end with British victory in the French and Indian War, the scene was set for a change.

Website of the Month

http://www.gotoquiz.com/carolina_on_your_mind

(if you get your Newsletter electronically just click on the link above)

For those who love trivia or online quizzes this is a fun site. The forty questions range from “What is Duke University’s mascot?” to “What was invented in and first served in New Bern NC in 1898?” The questions are just hard enough, and range just widely enough, to test your knowledge without being so obscure that only a specialist would know that. After years of helping 4th and 8th graders with their North Carolina projects I missed only one question. See if you can get 100%. You’ll find a bunch of other quizzes if you go to google.com and search for: “quiz North Carolina” or “trivia North Carolina.”

New Additions to the History Center Library and Archives By Rebecca Taylor

Last month we told you about the postcard collection we’ve begun along with our reorganization of the photos and pictures in our archives. This month we’ve finally gotten the library collection organized enough to

begin adding books to the library. Purchased this month are 4 classic titles by David Stick, considered by many our Coast's preeminent historian. Anyone doing research on coastal history, shipwrecks, lighthouses, or Bald Head Island will find a treasure trove of information and facts in these books. And since we wrote about the Louis T. Moore pictures and their web site last month we've added his history to the collection as well.

Added in February:

Graveyard of the Atlantic, by David Stick. Published in 1952, UNC Press

The Outer Banks of North Carolina by David Stick. Published in 1958, UNC Press

North Carolina Lighthouses by David Stick. Published in 1980 by the NC Division of Archives and History

Bald Head: A History of Smith Island and Cape Fear by David Stick. Published in 1985, Southport Historical Society

Stories Old and New of the Cape Fear Region, 1730 – 1956 by Louis T. Moore. Published in 1956 by Broadfoot Publishing Company

Support our Business Members!

BB&T

Bame Ace Hardware

Britt's Donut Shop

Coastal K-9 Bakery, Inc.

Fort Fisher Restoration Committee

Frank's Pizza

Friends of Brunswick Town

Got-Em-On-Live Bait Club

Hanover Iron Works, Inc.

Historical Society of Topsail Island

Island Florals by Roxanne

Island Gazette

Island True Value Tackle and Hardware

Laney Real Estate Company

B. Parker Protective & Lock

Pleasure Island Chamber of Commerce

Pleasure Island Fresh Market

Dr. Vincent Smith, DDS

Snow's Cut Monthly Magazine

Taylor's Heating & Air, Inc.

Tucker Bros. Realty Company

Zorba's Steak & Seafood

Society Notes

- **Membership Information:** Debbie Price, Chairperson. This month we welcome Bame Ace Hardware as a new business member. If you see either Rachel or Phil be sure to thank them for their support.

Our current count is 217 personal members, and 23 business members!

- **Newsletters:** If you wish to **receive** your FPHS 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.

- **History Center News:** Darlene Bright, Director. In February, our volunteers at the History Center included; **Lois Taylor, Dick Graham and Sylvia Snook** We helped a total of 34 visitors.

Don't forget THE HISTORY CENTER IS NOW OPEN: Tuesdays 12-4 as well as Fridays and Saturdays from 10-4.

Gift Shop: The Sweatshirts are gone just in the nick of time, but don't forget we have plenty of t-shirts with both the FPHS lighthouse logo and the Ocean Plaza. We've dropped the price on the last of the **ATTRACTIONS Coupon Books**. You can get them while they last for \$20.00 apiece.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING! We've got projects galore going on and are in need of some more volunteer help. Rebecca will hold two training sessions for everyone who helps out at the History Center. The

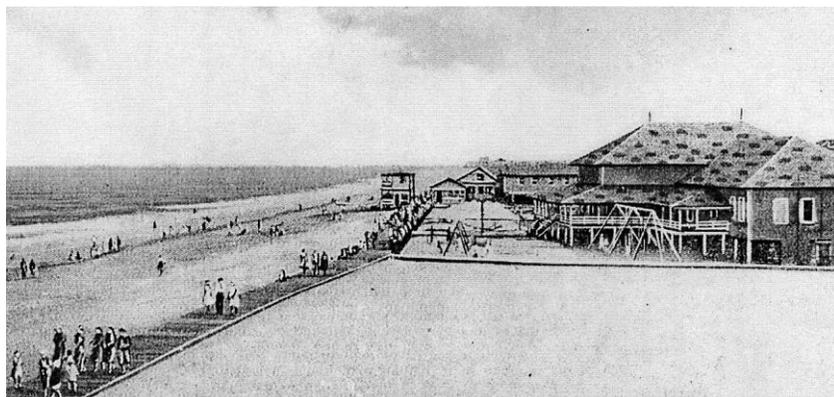
training will include the ins and outs of opening and closing the center, selling items from the gift shop (like how to figure that blasted sales tax) and what resources we have for answering the public's questions. We are also looking for people willing to help with several computer projects as well as helping to get the Newsletter ready to mail each month

**Calling All Volunteers:
Tuesday March 25 1:00 – 3:00
or Saturday April 5 11:00-1:00**

If you've ever thought about volunteering now is the time – for people who are willing to be alone at the History Center AND for people who want to help., but not “be responsible” for answering the public's questions.



From the Dr. T. E. Slkes Collection; circa 1931 or 1932



The Carolina Beach Boardwalk, 1930



The Monte Carlo at Seabreeze

Officers

President – Vacant
Vice-President – Cheri McNeill
Secretary – Lois Taylor
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Pat Bolander
Elaine Henson
Ron Griffin

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James Dugan
John Gordon
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Ray Flowers
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Sylvia Snook

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