



# Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

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## Newsletter

Volume 16 No. 3

March, 2009

Darlene Bright, editor  
Rebecca Taylor, production

### March Meeting

#### Monday March 16, 2009

The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society will hold its regular monthly meeting on **Monday, March 16 at 7:30 pm at the Federal Point History Center**, 1121-A North Lake Park Blvd., adjacent to Carolina Beach Town Hall.

Our March speaker will be **Dr. Lucinda MacKethan**. Her program, entitled *Gone With the Wind, Never: Scarlett O'Hara and Southern Womanhood, Then and Now* is a look at the popular image of southern women through a number of changing lenses.

In an era of tremendous cultural change, Margaret Mitchell's character Scarlett O'Hara stood for the New Woman of the 1930's as well as for the southern belle of old, nostalgically remembered. Scarlett is an icon of considerable importance for our own time as well. She speaks to ideals, threats, desires, and values that continue to color American culture's concept of the "southern woman." Both the novel and the movie *Gone With The Wind* offer classic lessons in how the historical novel provides ways to define critical social problems for later eras. Our discussion will center on why Scarlett is in a new century still a compelling and controversial figure and what she has to say to us today.

Dr. MacKethan is Emerita Professor of English at NC State University where for 37 years she taught American, Southern, and African American literature. At NC State she won several teaching awards, including the university's highest honor, the Holladay Medal of Excellence. She has published six books and dozens of articles on the American South, including co-editing *The Companion to Southern Literature*, which received a Best Reference Book designation from the American Library Association in 2004. A former fellow of the National Humanities Center and former Chair of the NC Humanities Council, she has conducted many workshops for teachers both nationally and locally, and she continues to write and speak to groups about southern culture and history.

**Dr. MacKethan's program is made possible by a grant from the NC Humanities Council's Road Scholars program and with support from the Courtyard by Marriott, Carolina Beach.**



## **February Program**

### ***The State of New Hanover County's Cemeteries 2009***

If you missed the February program by Beverly Tetterton and Karyn Crichton of the New Hanover County Planning Department, you missed an exceptional program. Beverly told us just how much work has been done in the past 20 years. It's amazing just how far ahead of the curve SE North Carolina is, thanks to Beverly and her dedicated volunteers. Then Karyn talked a little about the legal issues and how New Hanover County is enforcing them. There were lots of questions from the audience as we currently have such a strong group on our Cemetery Committee. Beverly told us about the dogs in Pender County who can sniff out graves and how they might be used to resolve once and for all the question of whether there is a slave cemetery adjacent to the Newton Cememtry or not. Karyn brought all the maps and site records that the Planning Department now has and specifically asked FPHPS to help update those files as we could. A huge thanks to both Beverly and Karyn for giving us their time and support!



### ***Sugar Loaf Line of Defense – Walking Tour with Dr. Chris Fonvielle***

#### **Thursday, March 26, 3:00-5:00pm**

Again this year our esteemed Society member and UNC-W History professor, Chris Fonvielle, will lead a fascinating walk from the Federal Point History Center to Sugar Loaf beside the Cape Fear River. Along the way he will point out a number of Civil War period earthworks and

ground features that remain today.

The program will leave from the Federal Point History Center parking lot at 3:00pm. A donation of \$5.00 to the History Center is requested this year.



### **Call for Volunteers!**

#### **April 4 & April 25**

**Saturday April 4, 8:30am – 2:00pm** We still need 4 or 5 more people willing to help with “Park Day” at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site. This is an annual event that happens across the county at over 100 Civil War sites (see [www.civilwar.org/parkday/](http://www.civilwar.org/parkday/)) This year Amy Thornton says the volunteers will be helping mostly with landscaping around the museum and doing some outdoor painting. If you work you get a t-shirt as a thank you. Please consider coming out for even part of the day.



**Saturday April 25, 11:00am on K street.** The Society will have a booth at the Kure Beach Street Fair again this year. It is a great opportunity to show off our programs and activities as well as a great chance to see old friends and tell newcomers all about our organization. Again, please give us an hour or two that day so FPHPS will be well represented.

**President's Message**  
**February 20, 2009**  
**By Donald G. Snook, President**

I know that you all are looking forward to spring after this long cold spell (if you are a transplanted Yankee feel free to smile).

I would like to remind everyone of the opportunity to participate in the society's exciting projects.

The **Oral History Committee** is looking at a number of projects designed to develop the great work that has already been done in gathering the memories of our elders and in identifying others for interview.

The **Cemetery Committee** is building on the great presentation given to the group on Monday, February 16 on the county's involvement in historical cemetery identification, preservation, and documentation.

We plan to have these committees meet once a month. If you are interested in either or both of them, please contact Rebecca Taylor at the Center: 910.458.0502. E-mail is [fpaps@yahoo.com](mailto:fpaps@yahoo.com)

On a personal note, I have enjoyed my term as president very much, and after it ends in June will work on both of these committees, despite some lengthy absences in 2009. The first begins February 27 – Sylvia and I have accepted a six week stint as Caretakers at Balsam Lake Lodge in the Nantahala National Forest for the National Forest Service.

I have been very impressed and humbled at the energy and knowledge of the members of the society. It has been a privilege to serve the society.

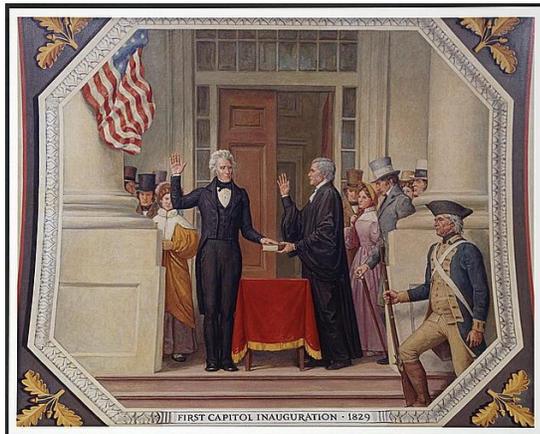
**Historic Feature**  
**Northern Secession? – First Sectional Controversy**  
**From The Annals of America, Vol. 4**  
**By William Benton**

In 1801, shortly before he was to retire from office, President John Adams used an opportunity given him by the Congress to fill a number of newly created federal judgeships with Federalists. The incoming Republican President, Thomas Jefferson, thus found himself confronted with judges unfriendly to both his party and his program, especially in the Supreme Court itself, to which Adams had appointed as Chief Justice his former secretary of state, John Marshall. Marshall like Jefferson was a Virginian, and even a distant relative of the President, but the two men were bitter political antagonists. Adams had also appointed to a district judgeship a certain William Marbury, whose only claim to fame was that he figured prominently in one of Marshall's earliest decisions. For Marshall himself, in the confusion of the change of administration, had neglected to deliver Marbury's commission to him and Marshall's successor as secretary of state, James Madison, was instructed by Jefferson to withhold it. Marbury therefore began proceedings in the Supreme Court to secure an order of mandamus requiring the commission to be handed over. In his decision, handed down in February 1803, Marshall declared that the

keep back the commission. But section of the Judiciary Act of 1789 brought suit was unconstitutional, and powerless to help him. By thus authority, Marshall actually extended ever been declared unconstitutional both a rebuke and a stern warning to program was put on notice as being by none other, in the last resort, than

Jefferson responded to his supporters in the House to attack but it convinced the extreme New Timothy Pickering of Massachusetts,

letter, that Jefferson had no principles. Since these Federalists felt themselves already doomed to minority status by the Louisiana Purchase, which threatened them with an insuperable coalition of the South and West, they now became desperate. As Pickering's letter to Rufus King, dated March 4, 1804, indicates, they seriously considered bringing about the secession of at least New England and perhaps New York, as well. Pickering had been appointed secretary of state in 1795 and had continued in that position under John Adams until 1800. He was dismissed in the latter year for the



President had no moral right to Marshall also asserted that the under which Marbury had that the Court was therefore apparently limiting his own it, since no Act of Congress had before. He thereby delivered the Jeffersonians, whose entire subject to judicial review – and its most powerful enemy.

Marbury v. Madison by inciting the judiciary. The attack failed, England Federalists, such as the writer of the following

persistent intrigues by which he had sought to bring on war with France. By 1804, when he wrote this letter, he had returned to Washington as Senator from Massachusetts.

“I am disgusted with the men who now rule and with their measures. At some manifestations of their malignancy I am shocked. The cowardly wretch at their head, while, like a Parisian revolutionary monster, prating about humanity, would feel an infernal pleasure in the utter destruction of his opponents. We have too long witnessed his general turpitude, his cruel removals of faithful officers, and the substitution of corruption and looseness for integrity and worth.

We have now before the Senate a nomination of Merriweather Jones, of Richmond, editor of the *Examiner*, a paper devoted to Jefferson and Jacobinism; and he is now to be rewarded. Mr. Hopkins, commissioner of loans, a man of property and integrity, is to give room for this Jones. The commissioner may have at once \$30,000 in his hands to pay the public creditors in Virginia. He is required by law to give bonds only in a sum from \$5,000 to \$10,000; and Jones’s character is so notoriously bad that we have satisfactory evidence he could not now get credit at any store in Richmond for a suit of clothes! Yet I am far from thinking, if this evidence should be laid before the Senate, that his nomination will be negated!

I am therefore ready to say, “Come out from among them, and be ye separate.” Corruption is the object and instrument of the chief, and the tendency of his administration, for the purpose of maintaining himself in power and the accomplishment of his infidel and visionary schemes. The corrupt portion of the people are the agents of his misrule. Corruption is the recommendation to office; and many, of some pretensions to character but too feeble to resist temptation, become apostates. Virtue and worth are his enemies, and therefore he would overwhelm them. The collision of Democrats in your state promises some amendment; the administration of your government cannot well be worse.

The Federalists here, in general, anxiously desire the election of Mr. Burr to the chair of New York; for they despair of a present ascendancy of the Federal Party. Mr. Burr alone, we think, can break your Democratic phalanx; and we anticipate much good from his success. Were New York detached (as under his administration it would be) from the Virginian influence, the whole Union would be benefited. Jefferson would then be forced to observe some caution and forbearance in his measures. And, if a separation should be deemed proper, the five New England states, New York, and New Jersey would naturally be united. Among those seven states, there is a sufficient congeniality of character to authorize the expectation of practicable harmony and a permanent union, (with) New York the center.

Without a separation, can those states ever rid themselves of Negro presidents and Negro congresses, and regain their just weight in the political balance? At this moment, the slaves of the Middle and Southern states have fifteen representatives in Congress, and they will appoint that number of electors of the next president and vice-president; and the number of slaves is continually increasing. You notice this evil. But will the slave states ever renounce the advantage? As population is in fact no rule of taxation, the Negro representation ought to be given up. If refused, it would be a strong ground for separation, though perhaps an earlier occasion may present to declare it...”

## **Oral History**

With the renewed interest in our Society’s Oral History projects the Newsletter will be featuring some time period or topic each month. This month Ann Hertzler has shared the following from an interview with Isabell Lewis Foushee and others from Kure Beach.

### **School Memories – Isabell Lewis Foushee**

Before 1937 the Dow Road Grade School was near Henniker’s Ditch. Katie Burnett Hines was the school marm. Isabell Foushee went to Myrtle Grove School for first grade.

While the Carolina Beach Elementary school was being built behind the Carolina Beach Lake in 1937/38, children attended the Boardwalk School - two rooms of the Old City Hall Building about where Britt’s Donuts is now located. The City Hall had been moved to the new building at the Yacht Basin. A favorite recess activity was taking a long pencil or stick with chewing gum on one end to reach between the plank boardwalk cracks for money dropped by the tourists. “We’d get 25 or 40 cents a day. A better way was using a stick with a split on the end.”

The new Carolina Beach School was less than half the size the school was in 2000. Children took a nickel each day for milk, which was the only thing you could buy at the time. Children rode the # 10 yellow school bus. Mr. Walter Horn and Mr. Merl were the drivers. The school bus turned right past the concrete columns to pick up Cousins Jack and Isabell Lewis. It also stopped at K and Fort Fisher Boulevard. Grade school students were dropped off at Carolina Beach

School. The bus then continued into Wilmington to Sunset Park Junior High (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> grade) then to New Hanover High. It was about a 55 minute trip. Children had a good time on the school bus singing and teasing the driver. The kids carried lunch money of about \$1.25 a week.



**Carolina Beach School – Class of 1937-1938**

Starting on right **Front Row:** Helen Lewis, Margaret Jordon, Evelyn Bender, Dorothy Grey (holding dog), Gladys Davis, unknown, Anne Coleman, **2<sup>nd</sup> Row:** Billy Dew, Iona May Davis, Billy Strickland, Hugh Kelley, Jimmy Lewis, C. F. Lewis, Robert Watters, Harold Ludwig, Peale Britton, **3<sup>rd</sup> Row:** Anna Lee Lewis, Ryder Lewis, Laurice Hickman, Juanita Bame, Catherine Roseman, unknown, unknown, Colleen Clark, **4<sup>th</sup> Row:** Mac Biddle, Bobby Harlow, Charles Hewitt, unknown, Betty Gray, Ernest Gray, James Lewis, Fred Dew, Richard Wooten, Martin Fields. Back Row: Teacher 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> grade in one room & principal Madge Woods

## Society Notes

- **Membership Information:** Debbie Price, Chairperson. We would like to welcome new members **Demetria & Phillip Sapienza** of Wilmington to our Society.
- **History Center News:** Darlene Bright, Director. Our volunteers who helped keep the History Center open in February were Pat Bolander, Sylvia Snook, Juanita Winner, Ron Griffin, and Jeannie Gordan. THANKS to everyone who gave us time and energy this past month. In addition to approximately 35 members and guests at our February meeting, we had 29 visitors at the History Center up two from February of 2008
- **“Be a Tourist...”** Despite the awful weather we had 11 people visit the History Center on Sunday, March 1 as part of the annual “Be a Tourist in Your Own Hometown” program. THANKS to **Darlene and Leslie Bright and Pat Bolander** for “turning out” despite the rain and cold to show off the History Center and our programs and projects to locals who were discovering us for the first time!
- **Donations!!** A huge thanks to the Town of Kure Beach for their donation of \$500.00 for operation of the History Center. With our local government entities facing difficult economic decisions, it is heartening that they choose to support our Society. If you see any of the Kure Beach Town Council members, PLEASE take a moment to personally thank them for this year’s contribution. –And, yes, the requests for support for the 2009-2010 budget year have already gone to both Town Councils so any personal encouragement for next year’s funding would be highly appropriate.

## Around About: Community Events

### 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 Gazette  
B. Parker Protective & Lock  
Pleasure Island Chamber  
of Commerce  
Dr. Vincent Smith, DDS  
*Snow's Cut Monthly Magazine*  
Taylor's Heating & Air, Inc.  
Tucker Bros. Realty Company

**VITA Tax Preparation.** Mondays and Wednesdays 3-7 pm, Tuesdays 1-4 pm. Carolina Beach Recreation Center behind Town Hall. FREE.

**Kure Beach Community Spirit Awards Dinner** Saturday, March 21, 2009 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Kure Beach Community Center. Nominations due by February 28, nomination forms available at Kure Beach Town Hall.

**2009 Historic Wilmington Foundation Home Tour.** Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>: (Azalea Festival Weekend) Tickets \$22.00 if purchased NOW, \$15.00 for Foundation members, \$25.00 days of the event.

### Officers

President – Don Snook  
Vice-President – Hazel Logue  
Secretary – Lois Taylor  
Treasurer - Jeannie Gordon

Pat Bolander  
Elaine Henson  
Ron Griffin

### Directors

James Dugan  
John Gordon  
Jay Hockenbury

Ray Flowers  
Cheri McNeill  
Sylvia Snook

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