



Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

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

Phone: 910-458-0502 e-mail: fpfps@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Volume 18 No. 2

February, 2011

Darlene Bright, editor

Rebecca Taylor, production

History Center Hours: Tues, Fri, Sat 10-4

www.FederalPointHistory.org

February Meeting Monday, February 21, 2011 7:30 pm

The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society will hold its monthly meeting on **Monday, February 21 at 7:30 pm at the Federal Point History Center**, 1121-A North Lake Park Blvd., adjacent to Carolina Beach Town Hall.

Historian Connie Mason, will present “**Bad to the Hair Bun: An Overview of Women Pirates through History.**” A native of Carteret County, Connie has worked as a National Park Service Ranger, the historian/folklorist for the North Carolina Maritime Museum and is now retired from the NC Dept. of Commerce as the Maritime Heritage Tourism Officer for the mid-coastal counties. Ms. Mason’s program is entitled, *Bad to the Hair Bun: an Overview of Women Pirates through History*, a fun-filled hour of facts, humor and song about the feminine side of piracy.

Connie was the recipient of the National Park Service’s Outstanding Achievement Award in 1986, elected President of the North Carolina Folklore Society, the oldest Folklore Society in the country in 1998, performed at the 2004 Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, DC and received the Brown-Hudson Folklore Award from the N.C. Folklore Society for her accomplishments in folklore documentation in eastern North Carolina.

She has recorded three CDs of original and traditional music: *Calico Creek Waltz*, *Christmas Quiet Harbors* and *Bogue Sound Watermelon Blues* which will be available for \$10.00 after the presentation.

Come aboard and become a part of our crew as we swashbuckle our way through this little known aspect of maritime history.

Last Month’s Meeting



We had a great meeting with the leaders and members of the Got-EM-On Live Bait Fishing Club. We heard about the history and current activities of the Club from some of it’s earliest members including Lynn Williams, Dennis Barbour, and Mike Coleman. A number of members of the Club joined us for the official “ribbon cutting” of our newest exhibit which is all about the Got-Em-On Live Bait Club.



President's Message

It appears that the groundhogs are all predicting an early arrival of Spring. I'm sure that many of you, as I, are hoping that turns out to be true.

Super Sunday has now come and gone. Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day are right around the corner. By the time you are reading this, your Society's team will have participated in the 2nd Annual History Bowl. Your President will be one of the team members this year along with the "seasoned veterans" returning from last year's competition. Thank you for your financial support regarding our team's entry fee.

In February and in March our monthly meetings will be held on the 21st. This month we are having a presentation by Connie Mason on female pirates. Sounds very interesting. Also we'll have some updates on events being planned for March and May. Hope to see you there.

Ron Griffin



Sugar Loaf Artillery Day

Saturday March 19

Federal Point History Center
1121-A N. Lake Park Blvd
Carolina Beach, NC

10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00

Adams Battery re-enactors will fire their artillery on the hour

11:15

Talk by Jack Travis, author of the new book *Rebel Gunner: General E. Porter Alexander*

11:00-2:00

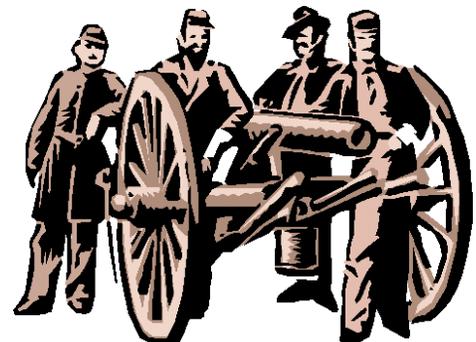
Civil War authors Jack Travis and Richard Triebe, with books to sell and autograph

11:00-2:00

Barbeque Sandwiches, drinks, and desserts available for purchase

2:30-4:30

Annual walk to Sugar Loaf lead by Chris Fonvielle and Ray Flowers
(pre-registration required)



**For more information and to sign up for the Sugar Loaf walk call
910-458-0502**

Oral History by Ann Hertzner

Ray Rothrock Part 1 – Kure Beach

Ray Phillip Rothrock was born in Thomasville, North Carolina, July 26, 1938. His parents were Henry T. and Mattie (Billie) Rothrock. World War II was at the peak in 1943 when his Dad had to either get a government job or be drafted. So he left Thomasville Chair Company, moved to Kure Beach and went to work at the Wilmington Shipyard as a welder. Ray was 5 years old. His parents had 6 children and were expecting a 7th one. Of the 7, Ray was right in the middle. Kure Beach probably had more than 400 year-round residents.



The Rothrock family first lived on S. 3rd Street in one of the little cottages that still stands behind Moran's Motel (118 Ft. Fisher Blvd. S. on the right). They lived in the small cottage closest to Moran's Motel. The cottage had only two very small bedrooms, a little kitchen and a sitting room. The very small front porch is now closed in. Mom, Dad and seven children lived in this tiny cottage for a year before moving South of Monkey Junction. His Mom and Dad bought the property from Sanders Road down to the south entrance to where Harris Teeter is now located. It had three small houses on it, but certainly larger than the very small cottage at Kure Beach. Back then they did not have running water, but a hand operated pump close to the house and an Out House way back in the back yard. They raised chickens and hogs and had a small backyard garden.

When Ray started to public school in September 1944, he went to Sunset Park with grades 1 through 8. When Ray reached the 7th grade, Sunset Park became a Junior High (grades 7, 8 and 9), so Ray went to Sunset Park for 9 years before going to New Hanover High School. Sunset Park School was then located 3 to 4 blocks past Seashore Drug Store between Carolina Beach Road and Burnett Blvd.

When Ray lived in Kure Beach, he caught the school bus at 7:15 at the traffic light in front of Canoutas's Restaurant which is now Jack Mackerel's parking lot. It was a long ride to/from Sunset Park School, picking up CB students at the Trailways Bus Station which is now where BB&T is located.

His Mom and Dad bought property in Kure Beach in 1946 on Ft. Fisher Blvd S, a lot 50 or 60 feet wide that ran from the street to the ocean where the smaller building of Admiral's Quarters now stands. There was one two story ocean front house with parking underneath. His Dad made two apartments upstairs and two apartments downstairs for seasonal rentals. He then built three cottages between the oceanfront and Ft. Fisher Blvd. His Dad did not hire anyone. He did all the electrical work and plumbing and would get his friends, the electrician and plumber, to inspect and sign off on the work. The three cottages were all two bedroom, one had two sets of bunk beds and the other had a standard size bed. There was a dresser, closet, dining room table and a kitchenette with a 4-burner gas stove and refrigerator. Linens and towels were provided. All the interior, the furniture, and trim was built by Ray's grandfather, a carpenter by trade. Lots of Knotty Pine was used in those days.

Back then, Kure Beach did not have a sewer system, so Ray helped dig the large holes, lay the blocks, pour the concrete to build the septic tanks for those three cottages. Ray remembers the big mess when they put sewer in Kure Beach. The water lines were put in first, then the sewer. Ray's Dad was a firm believer that you didn't pay anybody to do anything you could do yourself.

Once his Dad got the cottages built, he rented them. A sign on the street advertised "**Rothrock's Cottages and Apartments.**" People seemed to come back year after year. That was before TV. There was not any out of town advertising. People made reservations by telephone or just showed up looking for a place to stay for a few days. He would rent all the apartments and cottages and, if needed, the one that was the office next to the street where the family lived. The family would then go to Monkey Junction to stay. Ray cleaned on Sundays or whenever the people checked out – change the linen, sweep, mop, wash the dishes, clean the tub/showers because his Dad was very particular about that.

ON SALE!

20% OFF SELECTED BOOKS

20% OFF ALL GAMES AND PUZZLES

FEBRUARY 15 THROUGH MARCH 31.



History Bowl 2011

On Thursday February 10, our team competed in the 2011 History Bowl sponsored by the Historical Society of the Lower Cape Fear. Leslie Bright, Ron Griffin, Rebecca Taylor and Richard Lawence worked well together (there were a number of “ship” questions) and came up with more than thirty correct answers. Unfortunately the Whigs of Moore’s Creek Bridge had an almost perfect score and won the contest for the second year. Coming in second was the Wilmington Rotary



Other teams included Lower Cape Fear Sons of the American Revolution; Friends of Library; Stamp Act Defiance Chapter, Daughters of the Revolution, and the Cape Fear Revolutionary War Round Table. Though we ended up in the middle of the pack as far as points go we had a fun evening talking to all the other “history people” who were there. Among the group there were people from the National Park Service, NC Deptment of Cultural Resources and several service organizations as well as well librarians, as several authors and a publisher.

Society Notes

- ❖ **Donations:** **Susi Clontz** brought in a box of books, toys, and other items that will be great for our in-classroom programs. James Barnes donated two business cards for the old Beacon Grill.
- ❖ This month we recorded 40 members and visitors at our monthly meeting. In January we had 45 visitors to the History Center and took in \$13.95 in the gift shop.
- ❖ Thanks to our History Center Volunteers; **Lois Taylor**, for helping with the Newsletter mailing and **Demetria Sapienza** who comes every Tuesday to scan photos for the DIP. (Digital Image Project). **Darlene and Leslie Bright** continue to spend time on all kinds of projects around the History Center.
- ❖ Thanks to long-time member Lynn Benson for helping with the Got-Em-On Live Ribbon Cutting!
- ❖ Thanks to Virginia Frances for leading the Hospitality Committee. The refreshments at the January meeting were great!
- ❖ New Members: Please be sure to greet our new Business Member, **Leslie Lewis of First Citizens Bank**.
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report** by Demetria Sapienza. Due to the ongoing mid winter gloom and “wintery” weather we had a grand total of ONE sale in the Gift shop. Hopefully Spring will come early and people will come out of their “ground hog” hole and visit the History Center. REMEMBER selected books and all puzzles and games are 20% off though the month of March. Please remember to send in your dues renewals promptly.

FOR SALE! We have reprinted our booklet *Monuments and Markers of Federal Point* that was compiled by Sandy Jackson and typed and edited by Darlene Bright back in 1998. Taken primarily from the Bill Reaves files with color pictures of the most important markers, this volume traces the history of the area through its memorials. The 50 page booklet is \$12.50 and available in the History Center Gift Shop.

Now Available! Have you missed a Newsletter? Remember an article or speaker you want to read about again? Are you a newbie who would like to read about past programs and projects? We now have spiral bound copies of ALL of our Newsletters 1994-2009 available for Sale. Costs are: for 1 year \$3.00; 2 years \$5.00; 5 years \$12.00; 10 years \$22.00; for the full run of 15 years the cost is \$34.00.

NOTE for you calendars:

- Moores Creek National Battlefield will sponsor its annual anniversary of the battle with a weekend of events on Saturday February 26 and Sunday February 27.
- The Kure Beach Community Spirit Awards will be held on Saturday March 26. The dinner is at 8pm and costs 16.00 per person.

BB&T
Beach Portraits
Photography
Bert Croom Investigations
Britt's Donut Shop
Coastal K-9 Bakery, Inc.
First Citizens Bank
Friends of Fort Fisher
Frank's Pizza
Got-Em-On-Live Bait Club
Hanover Iron Works, Inc.
Harbor Masters Restaurant
Historical Society of
Topsail Island
Island Gazette
Monarch Mortgage
Muscleworx Fitness
Systems
B. Parker Protective & Lock
Pleasure Island Chamber of
Commerce
Russo's Motel
Shuckin' Shack
SlapDash Publishing
The Shoppes at Squigley's
Taylor's Heating & Air,
Inc.
Tucker Bros. Realty
Company
Winner Fishing and Cruise
Boats
Winner Marine
Construction and Salvage,
LLC

**Please take time to let our
Business Members know
how much you appreciate
their support.**

Federal Point Historic Preservation Society
Upcoming Events

Monday, February 21, 2011 Membership Meeting. 7:30-9:00 pm

Connie Mason, historian/folklorist will present ***Bad to the Hair Bun: an Overview of Woman Pirates through History***, a fun-filled hour of facts, humor and song about the feminine side of piracy.

Saturday March 19, 2011 Sugarloaf Artillery Day

Join us for this special day commemorating the role the Sugar Loaf landmark and the Civil War defenses in the Carolina Beach area played in the final battles for Wilmington. Activities will include demonstration firing of artillery pieces by the **Captain Z. T. Adams Battery** from Brunswick County. Author Jack Travis will premier his new book ***Rebel Gunner: General E. Porter Alexander*** with a talk at 11:15. Copies will be available for purchase and autographing throughout the day! In the afternoon there will be the annual "walk to Sugar Loaf" lead by local historians. Barbeque sandwiches, desserts and drinks will be sold starting at 11am.

Monday, March 21, 2011: Membership Meeting. 7:30-9:00 pm Jay Barnes, author of the new book ***Hurricane Hazel***, will talk and share pictures of one of the most memorable events of the twentieth century, at least here in Southeastern North Carolina.

Beach Portraits Photography

Business member John Gregory had come up with a great way for members to preserve their family history AND benefit our Society. For a \$75 donation to the Society you will receive a Gift Certificate for one Family Portrait Session AND a finished 10 by 13 Portrait. This is an exceptionally generous offer and is worth \$185 retail.

Officers

President – Ron Griffin
Vice-President – Annette Winner
Secretary – Lois Taylor
Treasurer – Demetria Sapienza

Leslie Bright
Elaine Henson
Jack Travis

Directors

Ray Flowers
Cheri McNeill
Pat Bolander
Jean Stewart
John Gordon
Skippy Winner

Federal Point Historic Preservation Society
P. O. Box 623
Carolina Beach, NC 28428