



Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

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Newsletter

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May, 2011

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Rebecca Taylor, production

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

www.FederalPointHistory.org

May Meeting

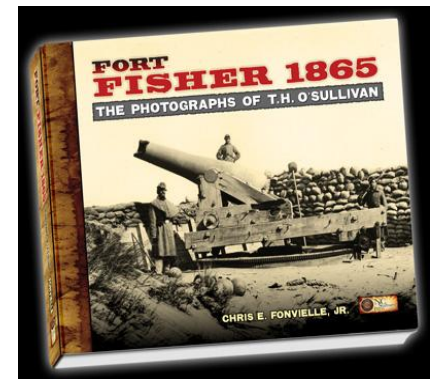
Monday, May 16, 2011

7:30 pm



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

Dr. Chris Fonvielle, UNC-W professor, historian and FPHPS member will join us to talk about his newest book, *Fort Fisher 1865: The Photographs of T. H. Sullivan*. Dispatched by the US Army as a field photographer Sullivan came to Wilmington in early February of 1865 to record Fort Fisher as it looked when it fell to Union forces in mid January. The photographer took a series of 40 photos



and Dr. Fonvielle will discuss the photos, how he found them, and what they tell us about the fort and the battle to hold the mouth of the Cape Fear River and Wilmington's link from the blockade runners and Lee's Army.

Last Month's Meeting

Our speaker in April was Andrew Dupstadt from Kinston. He works as educational curator for the Division of State Historic Sites of the North Carolina Division of Cultural Resources. An old friend of our Society he got his history degree from UNC-W and once worked at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site. We all learned a good deal about the Confederate Navy and Marines including stories of the *CSS Neuse*, the *CSS Albemarle* and other ironclads including *CSS North Carolina* and the *CSS Raleigh* built in Wilmington. There were naval yards and stations located across the state, including a large operation at Charlotte for manufacturing marine machinery. Other facilities were located in Wilmington, Halifax, Kinston, and for a brief time in Tarboro. For more information check out Andrew's blog at: <http://civilwarnavy.blogspot.com/>



President's Message

I'm sorry I was not able to attend the April meeting. I was having a temporary problem with some bleeding in my mouth. I understand the program was very good and I thank Lois for presiding in my stead. We have arrived at the point in the year when we have to identify candidates to serve as Officers and Directors of our Society. More will be said about this at our May meeting. If you are willing to be nominated for a leadership position, please let that be known to me or one of the other Officers or Directors. All Officers are elected for a one-year term and Directors are elected for a two-year term. Hope to see you all at the May meeting on the 16th.

-- Ron

Oral History by Ann Hertzler

Ray Rothrock Part 4 – Charter Fishing – Marina



In about 1947, soon after Ray's Dad built the 3 cottages, his Dad got into the Charter Fishing Business along with a Marina. Ray's Dad and Mr. D.P. Lilly became very good friends and partners. They obtained a 99 year lease from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the property at the very end of U. S. 421 to build the first marina and boat ramp at Ft. Fisher. They got a black gentleman from Seabreeze to bring his horse and drag pan to start the digging. A drag pan is like a very large shovel (scoop) with two handles. The very strong operator would lift the handles as the horse pulled it, scooped it full of soil, then push down on the handle when the scoop was full, having the horse pull it to the area to be dumped. There, the strong man would lift the handles, flipping the pan over to dump the soil. When the water level was reached, they had a Drag-Line to come in and continue digging to get the marina deep enough for the boats that would be using it. Once the boat ramp and docks were complete, they had the drag-line remove the berm left between the marina and the Basin.

To get to New Inlet, Corncake Inlet, or the Cape Fear River, you had to go toward Zeke's Island (pictured), where they had broken the rock wall apart. They had built the rock wall from the end of U.S.421 to Zeke's Island and then on over toward Bald Head Island between 1875 and 1881 to reduce the flow of water through New Inlet that caused severe shoaling in the Cape Fear River.

Ray's Dad and his partner started charter fishing, first taking people through the 2nd bay to fish on the island between New Inlet and Corncake Inlet or to surf fish on the North end of Bald Head Island. The people would go for the day, or would spend a night or two and catch lots of fish. Then his Dad and D.P., as people called him, got a larger boat and started taking fishermen into the ocean for trolling and bottom fishing. They had no radio, no depth (fish) finder, no compass, no nothing, just a 26 foot open boat with twin 25 hp Evinrude or Johnson Outboard Motors. New Inlet was so shallow, sometimes the fishermen would have to get out and walk beside the boat to get over the sandbars before getting into the ocean. Back then it cost \$5.00 per person for a half day fishing trip and they caught more fish than they catch now, paying about a \$100.00 per person for a half day. Ray worked as a mate for tips and would clean the fish once back at the marina docks for whatever the fishermen wanted to give him. Dad and DP put a small trailer at the Marina to sell bait, tackle, ice, soft drinks and snacks.

That 99 year lease is now null and void after his Dad and DP turned it over to someone else. In 1968 his Dad built a larger boat, Flo Jo, and had to run out of Carolina Beach Inlet because of deeper water requirements. CB Inlet opened in 1952 and after that most all the charter boats that had operated out of The Basin had moved to Carolina Beach Marina. His younger Brother Tommy started the Pirate Head Boat Fishing Business after working with his Dad as a Mate and then buying a boat from him. The Head Boats would carry 50 - 75 - 100 fishermen. Ray worked as a Mate for Captain Lewis (Baby) Davis the summer before he went into the Navy. Ray told me he certainly wished his Dad and DP would have kept that lease and he now had it as a Marina with a Boat Ramp. What a GOLDMINE it would be!



Civil War Trivia

From the web site: <http://www.gettysburgaddress.com/HTMLS/triviaQ.html>

[Answers on page 5]

Persons, Sites, Actions, and Things

- Q. What milk product, patented in 1856, became an important part of the Union Soldiers' diets?
- Q. What was the name of Robert E. Lee's beloved horse, now memorialized at Washington and Lee University?
- Q. What was the name of Jefferson Davis's last home, which after his death became a home for confederate veterans and the wives or widows and is now a museum?
- Q. What state university, whose students left en masse in 1861 to join the University Grays or the Lamar Rifles, is best known by its nickname, the antebellum term for the mistress of a southern plantation?
- Q. When the Federal government confiscated Mrs. Robert E. Lee's ancestral mansion where the Lees lived before the war, what use was made of the property?

Numbers Tell Their Own Stories

- Q. In the election of 1860, what percentage of the voters backed Abraham Lincoln, who had pledged to preserve the Union, whatever the cost?
- Q. What was the population of the United States in 1860, slaves included, but American Indians not counted?
- Q. During 1861-65, with more than 955,000 immigrants arriving, what was the approximate division to the North and South?
- Q. At Antietam, or Sharpsburg, about how many casualties were suffered on Wednesday, September 17, 1862?
- Q. How many men were in the Pennsylvania units that reached Washington on April 18, 1861, constituting its only important defense?

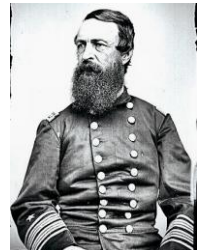
Places: Small and Large, Obscure and Famous

- Q. The English-born entertainer Harry McCarthy wrote the popular southern song "The Bonnie Blue Flag" in the spring of 1861 and performed it for the first time in what city?
- Q. In what vast uninhabited marshy area of tangled forest and underbrush west of Chancellorsville, Virginia, did Grant propose to fight it out "if it takes all summer"?
- Q. Jefferson Davis regarded what site in his home state as "the Gibraltar of the West"?
- Q. What city held the only gas works of the confederacy capable of inflating observation balloons?
- Q. What small community was completely transformed by General Grant, who made it his headquarters and the "nerve center" of the Union for the final ten months of the war?

Roles of Civilians

- Q. The parents of Thomas ("Tad") Lincoln became concerned because he had not learned to read at what age?
- Q. After Shiloh, which Union general did Gov. David Todd of Ohio want court-martialed?
- Q. What woman writer who defended Lincoln's use of war powers claimed to have planned the western campaign of 1862?
- Q. Whose name is attached to a December 1860 proposal for six U.S. constitutional amendments regarding slavery, to seek sectional compromise to avoid war?
- Q. What Scottish native reared in Alabama was enlisted in the Confederate army's medical department as a hospital matron?

Can you identify the following Civil War faces?



2011 Essay & Illustration Contest – Carolina Beach School 4th graders



How we should preserve the Federal Point Lighthouse foundation:

The Federal Point Lighthouse foundation was founded in 2009. But when they discovered they foundation of the lighthouse they had some concerns. The first thing was they were concerned people would take artifacts from the site; second they were concerned that weather could erode the site. My suggestion is that weather proof the site, place fence perimeter, and incase the site with a glass housing to allow others to view, and of course register the site with all the historical programs, and tours.

Respectfully,

Michael H.



Postcard Collection Special Fund Begins!

We have our second donation of \$50.00 for the postcard collection, thanks go to Curley Shands! This month I've found a postcard of the Carolina Beach Steel Pier that I'd never seen before. If you want to help us collect these important images for our archival collection send a donation to: FPHPS, P.O. Box 623, Carolina Beach NC 28428. Be sure to mark the check "For the postcard collection."

Society Notes

❖ This month we recorded 66 visitors to the History Center and 37 members and visitors at our monthly meeting. We counted approximately 250 people at Sugar Loaf Artillery Day with 40 people going on Chris Fonvielle's annual Walk to Sugar Loaf. The History Center took in \$186.49 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). **Pat Bolander, Ron Griffin**, and **Sylvia Snook** helped keep the History Center open and **Darlene and Leslie Bright** continue to spend time on all kinds of projects around the History Center.

New Members: Three new members this month: **Frank and Peg Fisher** of Kure Beach and **Kure Beach Pier**. Thanks to **Mike Robertson** for joining as a **LIFETIME Business member!**

❖ **Treasurer's Report** by Demetria Sapienza. It was a slow month in the gift shop with only two sales the whole month. Our budget request for 2011-2012 is done and will go to the Board at their June meeting. Mike Robertson's lifetime membership for the Kure Beach Pier helped balance the books with only two months to go in this fiscal year.

Answers to the Trivia Questions on page 3

A. Gail Borden's condensed milk.
A. Traveller.
A. Beauvoir, at Biloxi, Mississippi.
A. Ole Miss, the University of Mississippi.
A. Arlington National Cemetery surrounds Arlington House.

A. Just under 40 percent.
A. 31,443,321.
A. 764,000 to the North, 191,000 to the South.
A. 26,000: 13,700 C.S.A.; 12,400 U.S.A.?
A. About 500, five companies.

A. Jackson, Mississippi.
A. The wilderness.
A. Vicksburg, Mississippi.
A. Richmond, Virginia.
A. City Point, Virginia.

A. Nine.
A. U. S. Grant.
A. Anna Ella Carroll (b. Maryland).
A. U.S. Sen. John J. Crittenden of Kentucky, proposer of the Crittenden Compromise.
A. Kate Cumming.

Pictures from left to right:

Col. William Lamb, Rose Greenhowe, General Newton Martin Curtis, General Alfred Howe Terry, Admiral David O. Porter



BB&T
Beach Portraits Photography
Bert Croom Investigations
Britt's Donut Shop
Coastal K-9 Bakery, Inc.
First Bank
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
Hoplite Pub & Beer Garden
Island Gazette
Kure Beach Fishing Pier
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, May 16, 2011: Membership Meeting. 7:30-900 pm.

Chris Fonvielle will talk about his new book, **Fort Fisher 1865** which features the 1865 photographs of Fort Fisher by T.H. O'Sullivan.

Monday June 20, 2011: 6:30 pm (one hour early) Our annual Potluck Picnic. Always a great time to visit and enjoy all the great dishes people bring to share. Last year I heard TWO men exclaim: "WOW I can eat all the deviled eggs I want."

Beach Portraits Photography

Business member John Gregory has come up with a great way for members to preserve their family history AND benefit our Society. For a \$75 donation to our 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.

May is Preservation Month and the Historic Wilmington Foundation has a whole month of activities planned please check out their web site: <http://www.historicwilmington.org/events.asp>

Don't miss Chris Fonvielle's programs

"Wilmington Occupied" Revolutionary and Civil War Wilmington

May 10 and May 17th 7:00 pm at the Cape Fear Museum

May 14 (Saturday) Walking tour of Brunswick Town

All three events \$25.00; Single event 10.00.

Call the Historic Wilmington Foundation 910-762-1551 for tickets.

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

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