



# Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

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

Phone: 910-458-0502 e-mail: fphps@Yahoo.com

## Newsletter

Volume 20 No. 6

June, 2013

Darlene Bright, editor

Rebecca Taylor, production

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

[www.FederalPointHistory.org](http://www.FederalPointHistory.org)

### June Meeting

Monday, June 17, 2013

6:30 pm (early due to pot-luck)



### POTLUCK DINNER

The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society will hold its monthly meeting on **Monday, June 17, 6:30 pm at the Federal Point History Center**, 1121-A North Lake Park Blvd., adjacent to Carolina Beach Town Hall.

In lieu of our usual program, we will enjoy our annual summer potluck. Please bring a favorite dish to share with the group. If the weather behaves you might also want to bring a lawn chair. 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.

### Last Month's Meeting

The always knowable and informative Jack Fryar talked about the run up to the Revolutionary War in the Lower Cape Fear. He actually explained the "Regulators" rebellion and the events at Moores Creek Bridge where loyalists fought revolutionaries in a way that was comprehensible. He also promised to return for another meeting where he will talk about the conclusion of the war, again with local emphasis. For those who want to learn more he suggested the book *Redcats on the Cape Fear* by Robert Dunkerly which was originally published by Dram Tree Books but has been revised and was reprinted by McFarland Press in 2012. Also suggested for understanding this period, particularly the issues for the Scottish immigrants, were the historical novels in the "*Outlander*" series of books by Diana Gabaldon as Jack served as a historical consultant to the author particularly on books 4 and 5.



### Black Water Adventure

On Sunday May 19 forty-one people boarded Wilmington Water Tour's cruiser the *Wilmington* for a Black Water Adventure up the Cape Fear from Wilmington. From all reports this was a great event with masterful narration by Doug Springer, former Cape Fear Riverkeeper. A huge thanks to Doug and Diane and the whole staff at WWT for the smooth and seamless event. Plans are already underway to do another in the fall.

## President's Message



It's great to report that we are receiving funding from both Carolina Beach and Kure Beach for the operation of the History Center for the 2013/2014 budget year. That will go a long way in helping us balance the budget for another year. Please take time to let your elected political official how much we appreciate their ongoing support.

Our annual elections will be held at the July meeting. The nominating committee has been hard at work on the new slate of officers and board members. Nominations will be announced at the June meeting and listed in the July Newsletter.

## Oral History

### Earl Page Part 9 – Fort Fisher Compiled and edited by Ann Hertzler

Just below the cement gates to Ft. Fisher was water. The Air Force base was a training base. The parade ground was right when you come inside all those houses. On the other side of the parade ground is the river. In between was the barracks and the chow. Big guns were on the beach for target practice with targets off shore that the naked eye couldn't see. The Army had a blimp that flew over the Ft. Fisher area for a spotter. There were target practices for big guns. The blimp would sit up there and tell the military where the shells went. It's out of



sight so you can't see it from shore; but the blimp sitting up there could see them. They had a USO on the Air Force base grounds. Southern Bell would send them down.



Starting in 1946 you couldn't do anything until the Army got out. The Orrell Brothers owned the pier—all of Ft. Fisher. The Orrell Brothers hired Earl Walter Winner as a building contractor. Earl stayed down there because there was so much to do. The Army knew they weren't going to keep the place and spend much money on something you're fixin to leave.

Earl Page cleared sand off Fort Fisher Parking lot. Earl would grade the roads and put down boardwalk to each cottage so you didn't have to get in the mud to go fishing. The Ft Fisher pier was further south. Blue Top was up near the post. We had the pier and there were 8 cottages around the pier. People would come and stay at the cottage and go out on the pier and fish

**Airplane** This is a BT-13 plane, an Ex-Army airforce. This airplane is sitting right where the museum is at Ft Fisher. When you walk in the front door of the museum and walk out the back door, you're looking right down the airstrip. The pilot is friend of Earl Page and the other is the father of Earl Page.



They used to come in on that plane *landing on the Ft. Fisher air strip* - 4 of us in a 2-seater. No lights, no nothing. Cars would come down from the Blue Top with lights to help them see to land. And that's when Earl's daddy said "You're in love or you haven't got a bit of sense."

*[Editor's Note: This is the last of the oral histories summarized by Ann Hertzler. Thanks so much Ann! An index of all the parts published will appear in a future issue.]*

## ***Our Business Members***

Atlantic Towers  
Ned Barnes, Attorney  
Beach Portraits  
Photography  
Britt's Donut Shop  
Charles Henson  
Painting  
Coastal K-9 Bakery,  
Inc.  
First Bank  
First Citizens Bank  
Frank's Pizza  
Got-Em-On-Live Bait  
Club  
Historical Society of  
Topsail Island  
Intracoastal Realty  
*Island Gazette*  
Island Treasures  
Kure Beach Fishing Pier  
B. Parker Protective &  
Lock  
Pleasure Island  
Chamber of Commerce  
SlapDash Publishing  
Taylor's Heating & Air,  
Inc.  
Tom Sayre Construction  
Tucker Bros. Realty  
Company  
Wilmington Water  
Tours  
Winner Marine  
Construction  
Winner RV Park

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay Contest Winner: Joey Langhorst**

"I think the lighthouse foundation that was found in 2009 should be preserved by covering it with a plastic covering and then nearby showing a movie of the history of the lighthouse. I think this is a good idea because then people can see part of North Carolina's culture and then find out the history. This could be a way to raise money for endangered species and future projects. Plus tons of people will have another tourist attraction to visit just in case they get bored of the other attractions. To make this possible there needs to be space to build the theater and luckily there's a ton of space in Fort Fisher (that is available to use!)

Also it seems like this is a good idea because authors and historians have a really accurate place they can find information on the Federal Point Lighthouse. The completion of this idea could even lead to an ordinary kid growing up and then becoming a historian. To make this even better the keeper's house foundation could be covered with plastic (that is not touching the foundation.) A small model of the lighthouse could also be made so people can see what it looked like. This would definitely attract locals, tourists, historians, authors, and other people, too."

## **Society Notes**

### **Darlene Bright, History Center Director**

❖ This month we recorded 30 members and guests at our April meeting. The History Center recorded 53 visitors. The gift shop took in \$81.94. The History Center was used by Got-'em-on Live, the Fort Fisher UDC, The Pleasure Island Sea Turtle Project and a group of Sea Scouts for meetings.

❖ Please welcome new members **John & Frances Mosley** of Wilmington, **Jerry & Francine Hall of Carolina Beach and Louinice and Donald Motsinger** of Winston-Salem. Also please welcome new business member **Winner RV Park** of Carolina Beach. Also **Tommy King** of Wilmington is now a personal member. Oh, and thanks to **Jay Winner** for renewing as a lifetime member! THANKS TO ALL!

❖ Thanks to **Jeannie and John Gordon, Juanita Winner, Sylvia Snook, Ron Griffin** and **Demetria Sapienza** for keeping the History Center open while Rebecca was on vacation!

❖ Thanks to our History Center Volunteers **Carl Filipiak** and **Ron Griffin** for working on the cataloging of the subject files. That project is finally beginning to move ahead..

❖ Newsletter: Thanks to **Cheri McNeill** for her always thorough proofing of the newsletter and **Lois Taylor** for her help getting the Newsletter in the mail.

## Officers

President – Barry Nelder  
Vice-President – Juanita Winner  
Secretary – Lois Taylor  
Treasurer – Demetria Sapienza

## Directors

John Gordon (Chairman)	Thomas Gray	Jean Stewart
Elaine Henson	Cheri McNeill	Leslie Bright
Byron Moore	Skippy Winner	Jim Dugan

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## FROM THE COOKBOOK COMMITTEE

We are now actively looking for recipes from our local “long time” restaurants!

### Coquilles St. Jacques

1 T butter  
½ T parsley  
4 oz. shrimp  
3 cloves garlic  
4 oz. mushrooms, sliced  
4 oz. scallops  
1 T flour  
½ cup white wine  
4 slices American Swiss cheese  
4 oz. milk  
Salt and pepper to taste

Saute the shrimp, parsley, garlic, and the mushrooms in the butter. Simmer for a few minutes, then add the flour and let cook out. Add the cheese and finish with the milk. Season with salt and pepper. Serve over rice or pasta.



*Recipe from Phillippe Thompson whose parents owned the **FOUR T'S RESTAURANT***