



Federal Point Historic Preservation Society

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Newsletter

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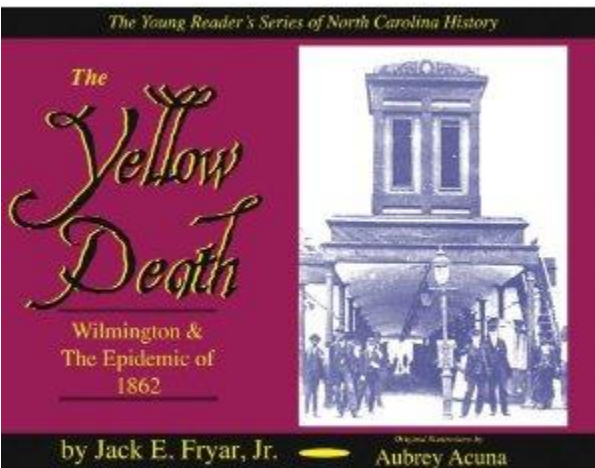
Darlene Bright, editor

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

Rebecca Taylor, production

www.FederalPointHistory.org

November Meeting Monday, November 19, 2012 7:30 pm

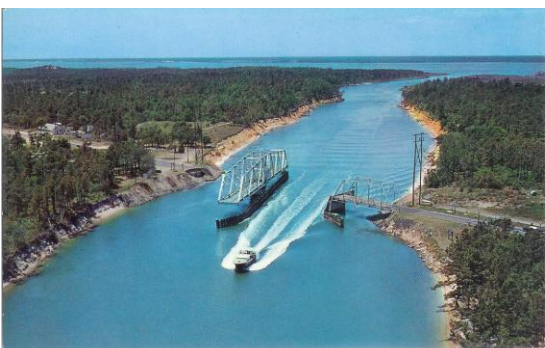


The Federal Point Historic Preservation Society will hold its monthly meeting on **Monday, October 15, 7:30 pm at the Federal Point History Center**, 1121-A North Lake Park Blvd., adjacent to Carolina Beach Town Hall.

In 1862, yellow fever cut a swath through Civil War Wilmington that killed off a third of North Carolina's largest city. Join Jack Fryar, author of "The Yellow Death: Wilmington & The Epidemic of 1862" to hear the story of a time when tragedy

was the rule along the banks of the Cape Fear River, and wagons carried the dead to Oakdale Cemetery on a daily basis

Jack E. Fryar, Jr. is the author or editor of twenty-two books about the history of the Cape Fear and North Carolina. Jack is the publisher of Dram Tree Books, the local press specializing in books about the four centuries of history of the Tar Heel State, particularly the coastal regions. He lives in Wilmington with his wife, Cherie, and is currently working towards a Masters in History at UNC-Wilmington.



Last Month's Meeting

Elaine Henson, related the history of the Inland Waterway, especially the section from Beaufort, NC to the mouth of the Cape Fear River. This covered 93 miles and was 90 feet wide to a depth of 12 feet. A very popular Major Snow was sent to Wilmington in 1926 to oversee this cut which made us an island. A wooden highway bridge over the cut was built in 1930 to be replaced by a more permanent one in 1944. Local residents had to pay for this bridge. The total project cost \$3 million and was completed in 3 1/2 years.

President's Message



We had a rousing success with our Fall Fundraiser. We took in just over \$250.00 and garnered some great visibility for our organization as the early voters lined up at Town Hall to vote on Saturday morning November 3.

A huge thanks to everyone who helped; **Carol Ufferman, Donna Bernadio, Lois Taylor, Jean Stewart, Susan Foy, John Gordon, Jeannie Gordon, Don Snook, Cheri McNeill, Paul Slebodnik, Leslie Bright and Darlene Bright.**



I also want to thank the great volunteer crew who worked at the History Center all day November 5. The first of our new archival shelving arrived in mid- October and **Don Snook, Jim Dugan, Jeannie and John Gordon, Demetria and Phil Sapienza, and Darlene and Leslie Bright** hauled almost everything out of the library, deep cleaned and then moved much of it back onto the new racks. Our new library shelving is due to ship the week before Thanksgiving so it will take one more day of effort sometime in late November or early December and we'll have our re-designed library/archive up and running.

Christmas Party: Again this year Virginia Francis, our hospitality committee in-one-person, has arranged for us to have our Christmas potluck at Kure Memorial Lutheran Church. The date for the dinner is Monday December 17, which is our regular meeting night. Plan to be there by 6:30 and please bring a dish to share. We will also be making donations to their Christmas food drive so bring a few cans or boxes of food to be donated through them to the Help Center

Oral History

Earl Page Part 2 – Army Truck Compiled and edited by Ann Hertzler

Earl bought an Army truck when he got out of the service. He used it to pull vehicles out of the sand and help in fishing. The dirt road goes down to the Rocks. The picture shows just two ruts in the dirt road. The highway ended this side of the Museum. Then it became a cow path.

Earl was on his way to help a guy raise a sail boat. He had to get there across a ditch. He pulled lots of vehicles out of the sand. They'd get stuck at the beach. It looked like a car was sitting right in the water. Earl's truck had front wheel drive. No one had 4-wheel drive back then. There were only two 4-wheel drive vehicles on this beach – Earl's and a garage at Carolina Beach. Earl drove in



the water going out in the Bay to get a jeep. A guy walked in front looking for holes. He pulled a taxi cab out of the ocean. He took pictures and it's a good thing because the insurance company didn't believe it.

Earl pulled a tank out of the ocean. A ship barge lost it. When Earl contacted the owners, they said we could keep it because it would cost more for them to come get it. Three men rowed out in the ocean in a row boat and brought the tank in close enough that Earl could get a wench on it. Earl sold it.



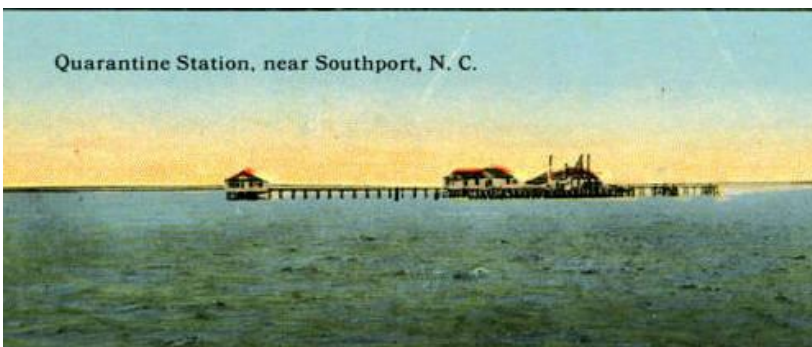
Many had to have vehicles pulled off the beach because they didn't know how to drive on the beach. It was like Daytona Beach at low tide - some one went down to Corncake Inlet driving on the beach. To turn around, he drove down toward the ocean and then tried to back up in the soft sand; the wheels sunk and the tide came in. Thank goodness for that Army truck.



The beach was very wide. If you stand with your back to the Fort Fisher monument, look out into the ocean, and hold your hand at a 10 o'clock angle you can see how wide the beach was. But right there, at 60 degrees, it's nothing but rocks. It looked like Coney Island. It was beautiful. But you couldn't park and you had cliffs. You couldn't get down right there unless you had an Army truck.

Epidemic! Quarantine!

By Rebecca Taylor



This month Jack Fryar will talk to us about the yellow fever epidemic in Wilmington in the Summer and Fall of 1862. But did you know that you can still see a concrete platform from the old quarantine station that was built in the very middle of the Cape Fear River?

Can you imagine what it must have been like to face a host of deadly diseases like small pox, typhoid, yellow fever, cholera and even malaria without having any idea of what caused them

or how to treat the people who caught them. The ONLY thing that could be done was try to prevent the scourge from somehow coming to your town. In 1348 the first formal maritime quarantine was established in the Mediterranean, when Venice created a system whereby an appointed council of three had the authority to inspect ships, cargoes and



THE YELLOW FEVER IN WILMINGTON, N. C.

From the Charleston Mercury, Nov. 4.

The abatement of the epidemic in Wilmington, we are glad to say, continues steadily. The following is the statement for the week ending last Friday night:

	New Cases.	Deaths.
Saturday, Oct. 25.....	17	10
Sunday, Oct. 26.....	22	5
Monday, Oct. 27.....	13	5
Tuesday, Oct. 28.....	12	9
Wednesday, Oct. 29.....	24	4
Thursday, Oct. 30.....	25	4
Friday, Oct. 31.....	13	3
Total.....	115	40

This exhibits a decrease of 78 new cases and 71 deaths, as compared with the statement of the previous week. Among the last victims of the fever was Dr. T. C. Wozni, Vice-President of the Howard Association.

The New York Times
Published: November 19, 1862
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individuals for up to forty days. In 1403 Venice established the first known maritime quarantine station or lazaretto on Santa Maria di Nazareth an island in the Venetian lagoon. By the 1700's all major towns and cities along the eastern seaboard of the US had passed quarantine laws though they were generally not enforced unless an epidemic appeared imminent.

As early as 1751 the North Carolina colonial assembly passed a Pilotage Act that required inspection of all ships coming into harbor. However, again it appears to have been "selectively" enforced for Wilmington suffered yellow fever outbreaks in 1819 and 1821.

Then came the Civil War blockade runners and the worst epidemic Wilmington would ever see. Thousands fled the city and over 600 people died. Until the end of the war the blockade running ships were stopped at Smithville (Southport today) or Fort Anderson for inspection and fumigation.

Soon after the war North Carolina law provided for a port physician to draw up quarantine regulations and by 1879 the president of the State Health Board could appoint two additional physicians to a local quarantine committee.

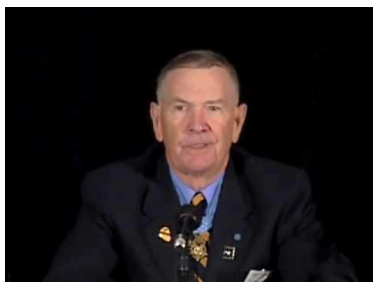
Dr. W. G. Curtis served as port physician from the mid 1870's to the 1890's during which time the quarantine station stood on the waterfront of Smithville. But the locals blamed the station for several epidemics in the area and when the waterfront station burned in 1883 locals lobbied to have it moved further from town. Then, in 1893, Congress established the U.S. Marine Hospital Service and construction of a station in the middle of the Cape Fear River opposite Price's Creek was begun. It opened in 1897. By 1901 quarters had been added for sailors waiting for their ships to be inspected and by 1904 there was a hospital for sick seamen.



By the 1930's developments in public health found the facility in the middle of the river obsolete and in 1937 it was no longer being used though a custodian was still looking after the buildings. In 1953 the buildings burned to the ground. However one small concrete pad remains and can be seen from the Bald Head Island Ferry soon after it leaves Southport. For more detailed information on the Cape Fear River quarantine station Google: [Steelman Star News](#) and [quarantine](#) to read Bens article from June 8, 2012.



Correspondent Galloway and Ret. Col. Marm to Highlight Open House for Vets at Fort Fisher



In a combined effort to honor veterans, the Friends of Fort Fisher, the New Hanover Veterans Council, and Fort Fisher State Historic Site are partnering to hold a Veterans Open House on Thursday, Nov. 15, 2012, from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. at the historic site in Kure Beach, N.C.



Highlighting the event are special guests Ret. Col. Joe Marm, Medal of Honor recipient for actions during the battle in the Ia Drang, Vietnam, and Joe Galloway, noted war correspondent on the ground during the battle. Galloway co-authored the book, “We Were Soldiers Once--and Young,” with Ret. Lt. General Hal Moore.

Veterans and their families are invited to come meet these two outstanding Americans, have books signed and have photographs made. The program schedule is as follows: 3-4 pm: Civil War museum and Fort tours; meet Col. Marm and Joe Galloway; photos and book signing. 4 pm-5pm: Discussion of the Ia Drang battle by Col. Marm and Joe Galloway. 5-6 pm: Museum and Fort, meet Col Marm and Joe Galloway, photos and book signing.

The site will have a limited number of copies of the large paperback, “We Were Soldiers Once—and Young,” for purchase but it is recommended that individuals bring their own copies of the book, DVD, as well as the sequel book “We Are Soldiers Still.”

Society Notes

Darlene Bright, History Center Director

❖ This month we recorded 68 members and guests at our September meeting. We had 54 visitors to the History Center throughout the month. The gift shop took in \$171.84.

❖ Thanks to our History Center Volunteers; **Elaine Henson** getting the newsletter into the mail, and to **Cheri McNeill** for her always thorough proofing of the newsletter. Thanks also to **Juanita Winner, Jeannie Gordon, Elaine Henson, and Demetria Sapienza** for helping keep the History Center open when Rebecca needed to be off. **Darlene** has also spent a good deal of time at the History Center this month getting things ready to pack away for the big “move” when the new shelving comes.

❖ **New Members:** Welcome to new business members **Rebecca and Jeff Murphy of Island Treasures**. **Susan Foy** of Carolina Beach has also joined as an individual member.

Our Business Members

AmeriLife Health Services
Atlantic Towers 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
Hanover Iron Works, Inc.
Historical Society of Topsail Island
Island Gazette
Island Treasures
Kure Beach Fishing Pier
B. Parker Protective & Lock
Pleasure Island Chamber of Commerce
SlapDash Publishing
Taylor’s Heating & Air, Inc.
Tucker Bros. Realty Company
Wilmington Water Tours
Winner Fishing and Cruise Boats

Officers

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

Directors

John Gordon (Chairman)
 Elaine Henson
 Byron Moore

Thomas Gray
 Cheri McNeill
 Skippy Winner

Jean Stewart
 Leslie Bright

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 Our cookbook is under construction. Daniel Norris has joined the committee and is going to be our “book designer!” So keep those recipes coming. We’d love also to have the story of the recipe; where you got it, who you got it from, why it’s a favorite. Here’s one from Kendll Doetsch that looks perfect for a cold winter weekend meal.

Three Cheese Chicken Penne

8 oz uncooked penne pasta	1 tsp dried oregano
1 tsp olive oil	¼ tsp pepper
Vegetable cooking spray	16 oz cottage cheese
8 oz sliced fresh mushrooms	2 cups shredded roasted chicken
1 small onion chopped	1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese (divided)
1 small red bell pepper chopped	½ cup grated parmesan cheese (divided)
3 cups chopped fresh spinach	½ cup milk
1 can cream of chicken soup	



- Cook pasta according to directions on box and drain
- Preheat oven to 425.
- Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium high heat.
- Add onion, mushrooms and bell pepper. Sauté 4 minutes till tender.
- Add spinach, oregano and pepper.
- Sauté 3 minutes till spinach is wilted.
- Place cottage cheese in a food processor and process until smooth. In a large bowl combine cottage cheese, spinach mixture, cooked pasta, chicken, ¾ cup cheddar cheese, ¼ cup parmesan cheese, milk and soup. Blend well.
- Spoon mixture into a 9 X 13 baking dish coated in cooking spray. Sprinkle top with remaining cheddar and parmesan cheese.
- Bake at 425 for 25 minutes