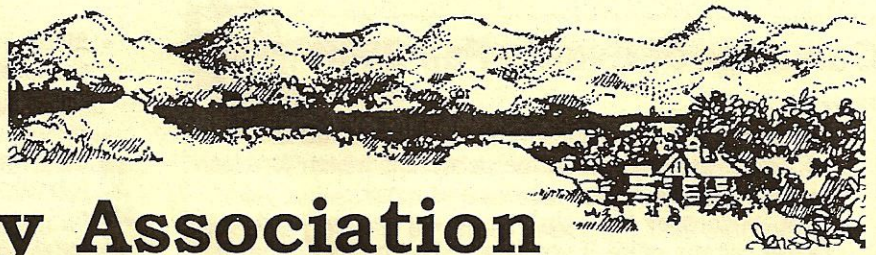


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Quarterly Newsletter

Yancey History Association



Volume XVIII, No. 16

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

Winter/Spring 2008-2009

President's Message

As the sun slowly begins another trek and the brown gray shades of winter give way to the pastel colors of spring. We here at the Yancey History Association realize the 2009 season is upon us. The blooming daffodils on the museum grounds are a daily reminder of this transformation.

For the next two weeks the board members and volunteers will be busy cleaning and setting up displays for our April 3rd opening. A number of unique exhibits and programs are planned to attract new and regular visitors to our museum.

This year will be an important one for the Rush Wray Museum of Yancey County History. Due to the economical downturn and the increased operational expenses we will be attempting to do "more with less", this season, as never before, your help will be greatly needed and appreciated. So include in your plans this year a visit to your community museum and help preserve the history and culture of Yancey County.

Bob Wilson, President
Executive Board of Directors

It's Time to Give Thanks

The following is a partial list of donations and donors so far this year.

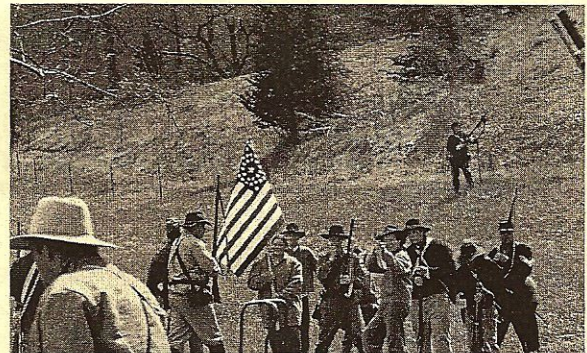
Monetary gifts received from:

-The Estate of Neva Renaldo presented the association with a \$5,000 gift specifically for the former Winnie Lou house now our McElroy House the home of our museum. We have great memories of Neva herself helping Winnie's daughter Charlotte and others plant daffodil bulbs just two Falls ago. She is indeed missed by many here in Yancey County.

-Ray Vance Miller donated two men for a day, along with trucks and equipment in order for the volunteers to dismantle and move the remaining logs from the Proffitt-Cousins Log Cabin to the museum grounds.

Items donated for display include:

-Glass serving dishes donated by: Elaine Dellinger
-Custom made lace panels for two-bedroom window, and two drapery panels with Victorian style tie backs for two door spaces off the main dining room donated by: Elaine and Charles Dellinger



2009 Opening Event

Our Commemoration of the Battle of Burnsville has grown and continues to grow. Battle of Burnsville commemoration planned for Friday, April 3rd (Student Day), Saturday, April 4th and Sunday, April 5th will be held on Banks Creek at the intersection of Banks Creek Road and Burleson Gap Road off W19E west of town, watch for signs along the trail; remember the museum is part of the North Carolina Civil War Trails Program. The 3-day event will open on Friday as a [Free Student Day] - where school students will have a hands-on experience in a authentic Civil War encampment. The next two days will be open to the general public adult admission is \$5.00, children under 10 on these days are free. The battle itself will take place each afternoon.

-Family photographs have been donated by a number of folks.

-A white porcelain bedpan donated by Sarah Proffitt of Bald Creek.

-Special Thanks to the Regional Library and specifically James Byrd for allowing us to share in a joint effort of recording our YHA library into the regional Dewey Decimal System. Example: If you go to the public library and they do not have the book you are looking for they will be able to see if we have it in our collection and make a referral on the spot or as our hours allow. This will be of great benefit to the genealogical researcher or history buff.

-Soldiers' things...namely (Robert Riddle) His niece donated a field truck/desk originally owned by Robert Riddle of Pensacola along with many books, records and WWI photographs and other mementoes of that era.

-Many of the volunteers regularly donate items for everyday use in the annex or museum, along with many hours of their time. For each of these things listed and not listed we give thanks!

Calendar of Events Fall 2008



March

- We are sorry for any inconvenience but we found it necessary to be closed to the public this month for clean up, old and new display set-ups and repair.
- Each Wednesday through Friday have become workdays, please call the office if you have a few hours to donate to this major annual undertaking
- The Daffodil Garden should be in full bloom within the next two weeks come by for a visit and enjoy their beauty.
- Quilt Raffle (Blue Dutch Doll Pattern) Queen size. Tickets are \$2.00 each. The quilt will be on display in the annex lobby soon.

April

- Saturday, April 3rd we open for the season with new displays and a special Veteran's Photo Gallery housed in the Lloyd Bailey Annex will be opening very soon. This is comprised of 120 plus photographs of Veterans from Yancey County who served in WWI, WWII, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq and so on.
- Admission for tours including the museum are \$3.00, if you wish to only tour the annex exhibit area a \$1.00 donation is appreciated.
- Battle of Burnsville commemoration April 3rd, 4th and 5th will be held on Banks Creek at the intersection of Banks Creek Road and Burleson Gap Road. off W19E west of town, watch for signs along the trail; remember the museum is part of the North Carolina Civil War Trails Program. The 3-day event will open on Friday as a Free Student Day - students will have a hands-on living history day in the camp. The next two days will be open to the general public adult admission is \$5.00, children under 10 on these days are free.

- **SPRING CLEANING!** Yard Sale date to be announced in the local paper and by phone call to our members. We are asking for items that are to be donated by April 15th, pick-up can be arranged by phoning the office on Friday or Saturday April 3rd and 4th or other times by just leaving a message at 678-9587.

May

- Fund Raising Supper on the grounds Friday, May 22nd from 5:30-7 pm we will host a fundraising dinner weather permitting on the lawn of the McElroy House, the menu will be a picnic variety.
- Free Basic Genealogy Class from 10-2 pm on Friday, May 15th. Must register by calling the office at 678-9587 by April 30th. The class will visit the associations' genealogy library, the public library and the court house. Donations will be accepted.
- Dedication of the Veteran's Photo Gallery and Quilt Raffle Drawing to be announced
- "A Final Farewell", a play available through a grant which was written by Jim Priesmeyer and Michael Hardy is in the planning stages now to perform in the museum this season.

June

- Bridal Gown Rotating Exhibit all month.
- "The Golden Days of Radio", return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear as the YHA presents a tribute to the old time radio with a collection of antique radios, radio memorabilia, clips of your favorite shows and a simulated broadcast of a radio show from that era. Performed by the Burnsville Little Theatre. Dates and time to be announced.

July

- Veteran's Exhibit courtesy of Bob Wilson will be up for the entire month in the museum.
- July 4th Celebration YHA Booth on the Square

Introducing those New Faces (NEW! Volunteers)

- Linda Cox more info to come
- Barbara Smith has just joined us and we'll update her bio later.
- Ernest Treadway (also a new board member) helped clean up the parking lot banks this winter.
- Charles Gillespie more info to come
- Becky Gillespie working on a special window treatment plan for the museum.
- Emory "Icket" Thomas has been working for some time on identifying our mineral collection and helping prepare for an exhibit this spring.
- Sara Cochrane is not a new volunteer however she had not been active for a while and has returned this winter making our wildflower and daffodil garden look just lovely.
- "Bucky" Cochrane has helped with the cabin, repairs and remodeling in the annex and hauling mulch and gravel for the grounds and gardens.
- Wendall Hooper is helping prepare the Battle of Burnsville Program booklet. More to come...

Give these folks a big hand!

WE NEED YOUR HELP VOLUNTEER TODAY
2-6 hours per week. Please Help!

Proffitt-Cousins 1860's Log Cabin

The cabin is now on the museum grounds, plans to reconstruct the cabin will begin this summer.

Smokehouse Update: HELP! Volunteers are needed to chink the log joints! Call if you can help from 2 hours or all day. A couple yards of red clay dirt is also needed for the mortar mixture. Any help is appreciated.

Membership Renewal: If your mailing label has **08** in the upper right hand corner, then your membership has expired and it is time to renew. If your label has **09** then you are paid currently! Yeah!

If you are past due two or more years you may soon receive a phone call soon from a volunteer or board member asking for support. We truly count on your membership and support; last year we took in less than \$800 in dues, so you do the math, we are steadily losing members each year for one reason or another. We understand the budget of every home is tight, but our history is precious and worth investing a few dollars in each year. Consider volunteering your time if you can not lend financial support either one is greatly needed.

What's Been Happening...

December

Despite the cold temperatures both inside the museum and outside, we hosted the Christmas Tea and Candlelight Tours the first weekend in December. We made around \$250 dollars on both events. We have new plans to bring a bit more warmth to the old house next time. The house was decorated in a traditional period manner with two trees one in both the dining and parlor room. The decorating committee included Betty Parker, Nancy Shaw, Roger Ray, Phillip Ray and wife Janet and Elaine Dellinger.

January-March

Many volunteers hours have been and continue to be logged by both board members and volunteers on such tasks as inventorying our collections, updating membership records, updating the budget program, general renovations, preparation for the Battle of Burnsville, cleaning and preparing the house (museum) and annex building for the new season, preparing press releases, orientation training for new volunteers and much more. This work is never finished.

March 7th we hosted a workshop entitled "Scrap Booking your Family History", a 6-hour hands-on workshop presented by our own member, Jan Stewart. Jan is a retired police officer from Charleston, South Carolina. She and her husband Randy both history buffs purchased the old home place of the "Frankie and Johnny Silvers" fame, better known as Charlie Silver, wife Frankie Stewart and daughter Nancy. A tragic story, however the Stewarts have found the property to be a warm and inviting place for a second home. Jan is an avid scrap booker and allowed the class to use many of her tools together with tips and techniques to help the class learn how to create beautiful books of family memories.

Open Board and Membership Meeting Scheduled for...

April 16th at 6:30 pm in the conference room of the Lloyd Bailey Annex all members are welcome there will be no program only a business meeting. The membership generally meets with the board in an open meeting 4 times per year; the announcement will be in the newsletter and/or newspaper.

By-Laws Change

The motion was made and seconded at the annual meeting, so the following statement was added to the by-laws. It reads as follows: "Each board member will be expected to attend all meetings of the board if they miss three consecutive meetings the board will reserve the right to ask them to step down from the position for the good of the board".

Genealogy Corner...

Our Genealogy Library will open on Friday, April 3rd and continue to be open each Friday and Saturday through October. A genealogist is usually on duty or available by phone. Please contact Janice Hagy or Elaine Dellinger at the annex # 678-9587. [See the section highlighting recent events]. If you are interested in attending periodic genealogy meetings or classes.

We wish to thank the following Sponsors who have helped make this issue of the newsletter possible. We sincerely hope you will take advantage of their services in the coming days.

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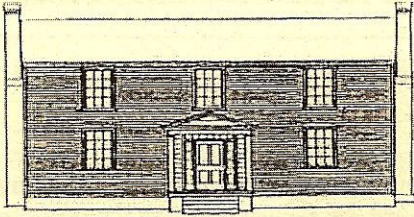
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After Hours: 284-3342

The Old Store Crafts

*We weave, spin, knit, bottom chairs,
make apple butter, and demonstrate
early cooking over open fires.*

For details call:
The Rush Wray Museum of Yancey County History
11 Academy Street • Burnsville, NC 28714 • 828-682-3671
828-680-1064 • 828-380-1319 • 828-284-0020



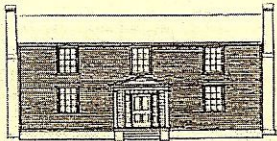
Yancey History Association

3 Academy Street
Burnsville, NC 28714

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*Our thanks to the Chamber of Commerce
for supporting our effort in getting the
McElroy House on the NC Civil War Trails!*



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ESTATOOE

Estatooe (es-to-toe-e)
Estootowie in early records. A
Cherokee place name, shortened to
Estatooe/Estatoah, from which the
name Towe or Toe River is derived.
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Secretary: Shirley Bryant
Historian: Betty Parker
Directors: Elaine Dellinger, Robert Ray, Jake Blood
Ernest Treadway
Director: Open Position
email: yhmuseum@yancey.main.nc.us

Let's Make History In Yancey County

MEMBER APPLICATION

Contributions Categories

\$ _____ I pledge to increase my contribution to the next level of support.

\$ _____ Sponsor (\$50.00) Donor (\$25.00) Member (\$10.00)

\$ _____ Any contribution large or small is welcome.

_____ I am interested in contributing items for use and display in the Museum.

All Gifts to Yancey History Association are tax deductible. Thank You for your support.

Yancey History Association

3 Academy Street
Burnsville, NC 28714

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Address _____

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