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Quarterly Newsletter

Yancey History Association

Volume X, No. 2

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

August 1996

Former Sheriff Terry Hall To Speak



Terry Hall is a well known former resident of Yancey County who served as Sheriff during the period 1950-1958. The History Association is pleased to announce that he will be its guest

speaker in August. The meeting will be held at the Annex to the Burnsville Library on Saturday, August 17th, at 7:30 p.m.

Terry will talk about his career in law enforcement in Yancey, back in the days when our county rivaled Wilkes in the production of illegal "moonshine." We also hope to have a display of photographs from some of the more interesting cases, and Terry may be able to bring along parts of a copper still that was confiscated in Ramseytown.

If you desire to see how renovation is progressing on the McElroy House (the future Museum of County History), you are welcome to come to the house (on Academy Street) at 6:30 p.m. for a brief tour and light refreshments.

Minutes Of Yancey History Association

The first 1996 meeting of the Yancey History Association was held on Saturday, April 20, 1996, at the Yancey County Public Library Annex. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Theresa Coletta. Minutes of the October 1995 meeting were approved as read following a motion for approval by Lloyd Bailey and a second by John Young.

The Treasurer's Report by Milidene Laws was tabled by the President until the next regular meeting of the Association. Action on this was taken in order to correct the carryover of the foundation funds which had been accidentally omitted. Art Brintnall made the motion which was seconded by John Young. Motion carried unanimously. Thersa stated that the 1996 budget would not be presented until the next association meeting with the delay on this presentation also being tied-in with the corrected financial report

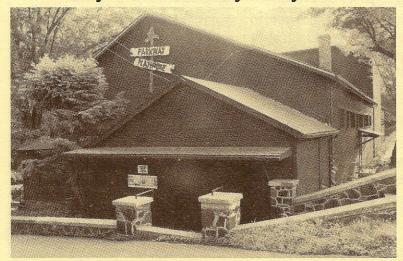
A museum/visitors center report was given by the Joint Steering Commit-

tee Members John Doyle and John Young. Their report highlighted the historic district update and the Department of Transportation \$10,000 grant application which was turned down. John Doyle explained this grant was applied for by the Yancey Chamber of Commerce and although the grant was turned down, the historic district plan for the Town of Burnsville is not dead, but "on the back burner" for the time being. Theresa thanked the two Johns for their hard work and commitment to the museum/visitors center project, and stated that hopefully one of the upcoming 1996 meetings could be held at the museum house, and include a tour of the project.

The evening's program featured Yancey Extension Director Jim Ray who highlighted "A Look At Early Farming Techniques In Yancey County." Dr. Lloyd Bailey coordinated the program and the discussion which followed. The president thanked both the guest speaker and the program

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History Of Parkway Playhouse Was Subject Of June Meeting



Burnsville's Parkway Playhouse, reportedly North Carolina's oldest summer theater in continuous operation, is celebrating its 50th season during the current year. The History Association was pleased to make a contribution to the celebration by fostering the gathering and presentation of a history of this distinguished theatrical institution.

Garrett Dixon Bailey, local attorney, member of the Planning Committee, and an actor in several of the Parkway productions, was the speaker at the June meeting of the Association. His topic, "A Miracle on Baptist Hill," was presented at the Playhouse on Friday evening, June 21, at 7:30 p.m.

This program, as is the case of all others of the Association, was preserved on Video tape.

Minutes continued from page 1

chairman for the informative program, which concluded with refreshments.

The last item of business was the election of officers for 1996 as presented by Lloyd Bailey, Nominations Chairperson. The slate of officers presented were: John Young, President; Lloyd Bailey, Vice-President; Milidene Laws, Treasurer; and Directors John Doyle and James Byrd. Upon a motion by Mrs. Sarah Proffitt for acceptance, seconded by John Doyle, the motion carried unanimously. There being no one nominated to serve as Secretary, Theresa Coletta agreed to serve as Acting Secretary for a short

time until the slot is filled. John Young accepted the Presidency, thanking Theresa for her dedication and hard work with the association during the past two years. Lloyd Bailey made the motion that in the absence of the President (John Young)), Theresa be allowed to sign checks with Milidene Laws in order for bills to be paid on time, etc. Lloyd's motion was seconded by John Young and carried unanimously with Theresa stating she would do this only for as long as she was the Acting Secretary. This was acceptable to the membership.

Last act of business by the outgoing

president was a reminder to those present that the June meeting would be held on Friday, June 21st at the Parkway Playhouse at 7:30 p.m., and would feature Attorney Dick Bailey in his salute to the 50 years of the Parkway Playhouse. A dance would follow which would highlight music from the 40's and 50's era. Because of the nature of this evening's program. Theresa reminded the members there would be no formal business meeting until the August meeting of the Association. There being no further business, the members voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Yancey History Association 1996 Budget

REVENUES: 1995 Fund Balance (from 1995 Audit) General Fund Balance \$17,785 Restricted Fund Balance \$7,500 (Janirve Grant balance for Museum House Restoration) \$ 25,285 Interest Earned on Checking Account 200 IMAGES OF YANCEY sales_ 200 GRANTS: __N.C. Dept. of Archives & History Grant_ John Wesley & Hanes Foundation Grant \$ 10,000 Yancey County/ EDC Room Funds \$ 17,820 Chamber of Commerce Service Station Payments_____ (4 quarterly payments @\$1,800) Miscellaneous Income (New Memberships, etc.) TOTAL \$ 95,905 DISBURSEMENTS: Executive Secretary (part-time @\$6.50 hr. thru 9/1/96) \$ Service Station Quarterly Payments 4 quarterly payments from Chamber of Commerce @\$1,800 Reserve Fund of 1 quarterly payment @\$1,800 \$ 70,320 Museum/Visitors Center Project Disbursements: Janirve Foundation Grant Balance \$7,500 N.C. Dept, of Archives & History Grant \$35,000 John Wesley & Hanes Foundation Grant \$10,000 Yancey County/EDC Room Funds \$17,820 \$ 1,000 Publication & Program Expenses \$ 1,000 Museum Grounds Upkeep__ Museum Utilities (phone) & Security System (minimum) \$ 1,000 Insurances & Professional Fees Museum Property Insurance \$350 Bond Insurance \$250 CPA/Audit & Tax Preparation \$1,500 \$ 10,185 RESERVE FUND Contingency Reserve Fund

TOTAL___\$ 95,905

Museum/Visitors Center Project Joint Steering Committee Funds 1996

REVENUES:	
1995 Fund Balance (from 1995 Audit) (+In Steering Committee Bank Account)	\$ 7,938+
Transfer of Funds (upon demand) from Yancey History Association in 1996:	(\$70,320)
1) Janirve Foundation Balance 2) N.C. Dept. of Archives & History Grant 3) John Wesley & Hanes Foundation Grant 4) Yancey County/EDC Room Funds	\$ 7,500 \$ 35,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 17,820
TOTAL	\$78,258
DISBURSEMENTS FROM YANCEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION FOR 1996: (\$70	,320)
3/14/96	\$ 5,000
4/19/96*	
5/8/96	
5/21/96	
6/19/96	
6/28/96	
TOTAL	\$ 37,910
FUND BALANCE OF FUNDS TO BE TRANSPERRED: \$32,410	
[*By this date, Balance of Janirye Foundation Grant (\$7,500)	spent]

When Yancey Was Part Of Buncombe

(Continued from Volume X, No. 1)

April, 1798:

County seat now knows as Asheville. John Street is elected Sheriff [likely not from Yancey].

Tax Listers include Hickman Hensley for his company. There are 10 companies in all. Tax rate: 1 shilling/100 acres and 3 shillings/poll.

Jury list for next term includes Zephaniah Horton [who then or soon after resided near Burnsville].

July, 1798:

A tax of 1 pence/poll and 4 pence/ 100 acres is decreed in order to pay jurors, and for a bounty on the scalps of wolves and panthers.

October, 1798:

W. Avery's deed [Waightstill Avery] to John Edwards for 240 acres is to be registered.

April, 1799:

Hickman Hensley is to list the taxes in his company.

July, 1799:

Zephaniah Horton and others to superintend the elections.

October, 1799:

Charles Rowland is on the jury list.

January, 1800:

Robert Patterson on jury list [possibly a relative or the same as the Robert Patterson who was the ancestor of the Yancey clan for whom Patterson Branch of Jacks Creek is named; Jane Patterson was already a resident there in the 1790 Census].

April, 1800:

Zephaniah Horton to list taxes in Capt. Hensley's company.

July, 1800:

Hickman Hensley and others to superintend the election of members of the State Assembly, to be held at Ivey River precinct.

January, 1801:

Joseph Ray is appointed Constable (location not specified; see October, 1804).

State vs George Byrd for trespass; mistrial by consent (noli prosequi).

Zephaniah Horton is a Justice of the Peace.

April, 1801:

Tax Lister: Capt. Hensley's company is no longer listed (now under a new name; see April, 1802).

June, 1801 (Book also has it as 1802)

John Anderson is appointed Constable (location now given).

John Edwards signs a bond.

April, 1802:

Tax Listers include Hickman Hensley in Capt. Baker's company. [Possibly David Baker, veteran of the Revolution, who resides at Bakersville in what is not Mitchell County.]

July, 1802:

Zephaniah Horton and others are to superintend the election at Ivy Station precinct.

April, 1803:

Jury list includes Levi Bailey [resided in what is now Madison, but was in the first class of Commissioners for the new county of Yancey in 1833].

Tax Listers include: James Poteet in Capt. Edwards' company; Robert Phillips in Capt. Baker's company.

July, 1803:

Zephaniah Horton and others to superintend the election for [U.S.] Congress at the Ivey River precinct; others are to superintend the election for members of [State] Assembly.

April, 1804:

Tax Lister: Hickman Hensley in

Capt. Edwards' company.

October, 1804:

Joseph Ray is Constable; security pledged by Hickman Hensley and George Baker [thus making it clear that this is for present Yancey].

State vs Hiram Ray: he is to pay 15 pounds currency to Mary Rathbone for a case of "bastardy" [see July, 1805].

April, 1805:

Tax Lister in Capt. Edwards' company is James Poteet.

July, 1805:

Hiram Ray defaults on his payments [see October, 1804] and is fined.

October, 1806:

Joseph Hawkins vs Moses Honeycutt and John Edwards: indebtedness in the amount of 50 pounds which has not been paid; found guilty and fined.

January, 1807:

April, 1807:

Tax Listers include: May Holcombe in Capt. Bailey's company; Thomas Moore in Capt. Edwards' company; Robert Anderson is to take in all the companies on the Caney River side except Capt. Edwards'.

July, 1807:

William Gillespie vs Nathan Deyton: indebtedness; guilty of non-payment.

April, 1808:

Tax Listers: Jesse Harris in the company on Caney River. Year's provisions to be laid off for the widow of Julius Robinson, with the committee to consist of Jesse Harris, John Edwards, George Byrd, and John Bennett. [I presume that this is the Julius Robinson for whom both Julius' Knob and Julius' Ford of Toe River were named. See also January, 1812.]

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Buncombe

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April, 1809:

[Tax Lists: I cannot figure out how the Yancey County company(s) are listed, since none of the names are familiar to me.]

April, 1810:

Jury lists includes Thomas Ray, Jr. Tax Listers: Zephaniah Horton in Capt. Deaton's [Deyton's] company; James Poteet in Capt. McElroy's company [=John McElroy, who lived on Possum Trot?].

January, 1811:

Samuel Vance vs Nathan Deaton: indebtedness.

April, 1811:

Tax Listers: James Poteet in Capt. Shields' company; Jesse Harris in Capt. Griffith's company; Zephaniah Horton in Capt. Horton's company.

July, 1811:

Town, State, Zip____

The will of Ezekiel Hampton [Sr.] is proved in court; Malcolm McCourry is witness, Ezekiel Hampton Jr. is Executor. [Junior lived on Jacks Creek, died in 1848, and is buried near the Osborne Briggs residence there.]

Appointed to oversee the elections

on Caney River [a new polling place] are: Jesse Harris, Luke Barnard, George Wilson.

January, 1812:

Moses Honeycutt vs William Wilson: indebtedness; Honeycutt is awarded damages and costs. [Honeycutt now or later lived on Jacks Creek and is the ancestor of most persons of this name in Yancey and Mitchell Counties.]

John Edwards vs the heirs of Julius Robinson [see April, 1808]: committee appointed to settle, includes Malcolm McCourry, George Byrd, Ezekiel Hampton, Patrick Dial, and Lazarus Phillips.

Jacob Oxford is mentioned as Constable on Caney River.

William Taylor is mentioned as a land owner on Jacks Creek.

April. 1812:

Tax Listers: James Poteet in Capt. Shields' company; Henry Rowland in Capt. Chisolm Griffith's company; Robert Anderson in Capt. Horton's company.

July, 1812:

John Edwards, Sr., vs Moses Honeycutt; non suit.

Moses Honeycutt vs John Edwards, Sr.; non suit.

END OF BOOK

Heritage Volume I Is Ready!

Those of you who did not obtain a copy of Lloyd Bailey's outstanding book, The Heritage of the Toe River Valley now have one last opportunity to own it. Walsworth Publishing Company and Don Mills, Inc., announces that a limited number of copies of a reprint are now ready for shipment. It is available at the same cost of the first edition, \$68.00, which includes sales tax, packing, and shipping.

The volume, a copy of which can be seen at the Yancey County Public Library, is of large size (9 X 12 inches) and contains 747 articles (547 pages) of articles on local history and families in Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties, most with a photograph. It is fully indexed by first and family name (the index alone covers nearly 60 pages).

Order with pre-payment of \$68.00 from Lloyd Bailey, 4122 Deep Wood Circle, Durham, NC 27707. Be sure to include the address to which you wish it shipped.

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Let's Make History In Yancey	County
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___Enclosed is \$5 for a one-year membership to Yancey History Association (Members will receive Estatoee, The quarterly newsletter which contains history & genealogy articles, and information about meetings, publications and projects)

___I would like to contribute to making Yancey history come alive with a donation to the museum project. (includes membership)

__\$1000 __\$500 __\$200 __\$100 __\$50 __\$25 Other___

___I will consider museum project in my will to bequeath real estate, antiques, or money to help Yancey History Association preserve our past for the future.

Name______Address_____

Mail to: Yancey History Association, P.O. Box 1088, Burnsville, NC 28714

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

Yancey History Association

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