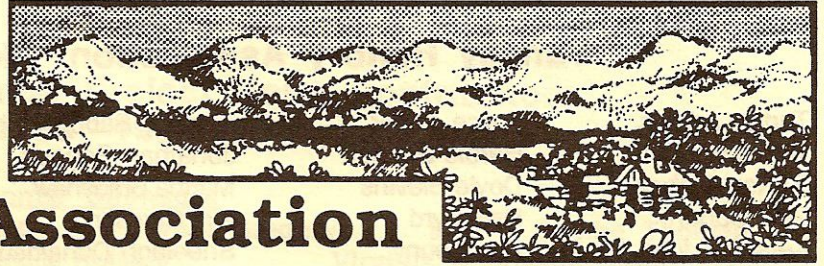


ESTATOE

Quarterly Newsletter

Yancey History Association



Volume XIII, No. 4

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

1999/2000

Executive Directors Report

It has certainly been an event filled year. Here is a partial list of the Yancey History Association's 1999 achievements:

- Completed enough of the McElroy House to open the doors thanks to a grant from the JANIRVE Foundation.
- Installed a state of the art security and fire detection system with a gift from Fredrica Sargent.
- Built display cases with a grant from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, allowing us to exhibit many of the collections donated by the fine citizens of Yancey County and our Region.
- Relived the Battle of Burnsville with the help of Michael and Elizabeth Hardy and the 58th North Carolina Troop reenactors.
- Enjoyed the stories and songs of Sheila Adams and the wide ranging musical talents of the BR Boys thanks to a grant from the Toe River Arts Council and support from the Yancey County Library.
- Opened "a window in time" to residents and visitors allowing them to experience the feel of being in Yancey County during the mid to late 1800's. The grant received from the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, the Steele Reese Foundation and Yancey County Foundation brought our Living History Room to life. We shared the bitter sweet pain of "NANCE DUDE" and the troubled times of J.W. McElroy in his "FINAL FAREWELL" to the home he built. We brought "FREEDOM'S ALTAR" to life, feeling the determined strength of a former slave's quest for a new life beyond bondage and we explored the human and humorous life of Captain Bill Moore on the last day of his life in "A FOND FAREWELL".
- Retained the financial support of the Town of Burnsville and gained an increased level of support from our County Government.
- Paid off the notes on the parking lot and the Visitor Center converting our only debt into income.
- Continued to increase our membership and contributions which improves our ability to serve the community and also shows the level of importance and commitment our community places upon this project.

The programing of the past year has provided and excellent building block for this and many years to come. During the next few weeks we will wrap our plans for the upcoming Museum season. Our regular meetings and programs, which took a back seat to the Museum Opening, are important and will be incorporated into our new programs.

While the plans we make for the Museum are of great importance we must not lose sight of the History Associations overall Mission. As I look ahead to this new year and the years beyond I see an increasing challenge in the History Association's pursuit of it's Mission to preserve Yancey County's history. Developing the former Yancey Collegiate Institute campus into a Historic District, Moving the Watson Whistant House, Saving the David Buck House and Assisting NCDOT in Hwy. 19 Project are just a few of the worthy efforts that this organization has been asked to become involved in. We can only accomplish our Mission, in these areas, if we do so working as a partner providing a valuable compensated service.

My best wishes to one and all in this new year.

Jim Priesmeyer

MUSEUM REPORT

This past fall the Yancey History Association was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Cannon Foundation. The first priority use of these funds will be to install a staff and volunteer bathroom and kitchenette. The work on this area, located behind the false wall in the old kitchen, is underway and will be complete prior to the Museum's reopening this Spring.

The key element to the continued success of the Museum will be determined by the History Association volunteers who are willing to donate the time needed to keep the Museum open. The bathroom will provide a needed comfort for the volunteers.

The kitchenette will not only service the needs of staff and volunteers it will also provide the opportunity for the demonstration of period food preparation and greatly expand our use of the facility for fund-raising events.

In an effort to stretch grant dollars to the maximum we are once again seeking volunteers to assist in paint prep, painting and general clean up. These efforts will begin the first of March and will allow us to make the Living Room more presentable for displays. As time and funds allow we will also make progress on one of the two remaining upstairs bedrooms. Please call Jim at 682-3671 to volunteer or for more information.

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD MARCH 11th. MARK YOUR CALENDERS AND WATCH FOR FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Yancey History Association Membership 1999 / 2000

Tarlton Adams	Joyce Adger	Timothy Babb	Billy Ray Bailey	Virginia Banks
Wilber Barnett	Harold Bennett	Jonathan Bennett	Nathan Bennett	Dorothy Bishop
RoAnn Bishop	Doyle Blevins	Martha Bradshaw	Paula & Fred Buck	Katheleen Buckner
Paul Burton	Dale Byrd	Kirk Carrison	Sen. Charles Carter	Donn Cook
Kerstin & John Davis	Ray Denny	Sheelagh Donaldson	Dean Styles Elam	Jeanetta Fortner
Rep. Mitch Gillespie	Patti Graman	Dan L. Gray	Margaret Griffith	Phil Groves
Rhonda Gunter	Katinka & Irv Haines	Michael Hardy	Arlon Harris	Jeniffer Hedrick
Ellen B. Hensley	Jody Higgins	Jim Holbrook	Marvin Holland	Joan Hooker
Evelyn Howell	Tom Hullet	Judge Bob Hunter	Gene Hurdt	Dr. David Johnson
Nancy Jones	Mrs. Raymond King	Will Kleinwachter	Steve Laughrun	Michelle Lawhern
Milidene Laws	Robert E. Lee	Ann Lenhart	Kim Mayhew	Betty Ray McCain
Ray McCourry	Bonnie McCurry	Gary E. McElroy	Linda McIntosh	Sen. Steve Metcalf
Kaye Meyers	Marie & Chester Miller	Ernest Morgan	Jennifer Morgan	Norma Morgan
Jessica Newton	Bill Perkins	Clara Peterson	Jessica Priesmeyer	Jill Priesmeyer
John & Tammy Pruitt	Bill Pumphrey	Betty Race	Dorothy & Mack Ray	Phillip Ray
Neva Renaldo	John Renfro	Herb Robinson	Gloria Robinson	Malena Robinson
Alice & Joe Ruth	Roberta & Sanford Samel	Leah Shaw	Stoll's Carriges	Clyd Styles
Sheburn Thurber	Phillip Trew	Doris Victor	William Watts Jr.	Martin Webster
Bill Whiteside	Barbara Wilson	Calvin Wilson	Evelyn Wilson	Robert Wolf
Pat Woody	Allison Wright			

Donors

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Ruth & Fergus Pope	Ron & Minnie Powell	Keith Presnell
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Rabon Robinson	Mr & Mrs William Shurley	H F Smith
JeffrieLynn Standen	Dixie Styles	Dr. & Mrs. Garland Wampler
Norma Westall	Jane Wiilig	Perry Young
John Young	Greg Yuziuk	

Contributors

Tom & Helen Baden	Evelyn Hope Bailey	Bill & Ginny Banks
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Mr. & Mrs. Charles Gillespie, Jr.	Jim & Margie Haaga	Pat & Janet Hepburn
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Bronze Sponsors

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Gold Sponsor

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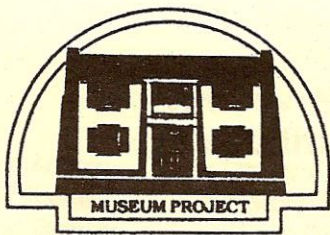
Bronze

The John Wesley and Anna Hodgin Hanes Foundation* Two Star
North Carolina Department of Transportation *Two Star
The JANIRVE Foundation * Four Star
The Cannon Foundation * Three Star

Silver

The Yancey History Association
The Town of Burnsville
Mary Louise Wray Conner & her father Rush T. Wray
Yancey County Government
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Thank You for your support!



Yancey History Association

Post Office Box 1088
Burnsville, NC 28714

ESTATOOE

*Published Quarterly by the
Yancey History Association*

P.O. Box 1088
Burnsville, NC 28714
(828) 682-3671

Estatooe (es-to-toe-e)

Estootowie in early records. A Cherokee
place name, shortened to **Estatoe/
Estatoah**, from which the name **Towe** or
Toe River is derived.

Newsletter Editors:

Lloyd Bailey, Jim Priesmeyer

Program Committee: Lloyd Bailey,

John Doyle, James Byrd

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President: John Doyle

Vice-President: Lloyd Bailey

Treasurer: Tim Babb

Secretary: Shelba Thomas

Directors: Norma Westall, Jessica Newton

Steering Committee Members: John Young,
John Doyle

Executive Director: Jim Priesmeyer

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ARE COMING!**

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April 29th & 30th