Quarterly Newsletter

Yancey History Association

Volume XVI, No. 1

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

Winter 2002

The Museum of Yancey County History Spring Events 2002

March 23rd - Annual Meeting & Program

The Yancey History Association will meet at the <u>Burnsville Masonic Lodge</u>, <u>Saturday at 7:00 PM</u>. The featured speaker will be folklorist, storyteller and cultural treasure Charlotte Ross. She will be speaking on one of her special areas of interest the chestnut tree, bring to life the fascinating culture and lifestyle that once revolved around this remarkable plant. Ms. Ross, who has collected over 4,000 Appalachian tales, weaves together legends, oral history, and family stories into captivating stories that bring to life the culture of the Mountain South. She has served as director of the Appalachian Regional Collection at Appalachian State University</u>, President of the Council on Appalachian Women, and currently serves on the Board of the North Carolina Storytelling Guild.

Prior to the program there will be a brief membership meeting. The meeting's business will include the annual report and the election of officers. All members are encouraged to attend.

April 27th and 28th - Fourth Annual "Battle of Burnsville"

The "Living Historians" from the Southern Appalachian Historical Interpreters Association will set up a Home Guard style camp for the weekend. <u>Tours</u> of the McElroy House and the Home Guard encampment will given at 10:00 and 11:30 AM & 1:00 and 2:30 PM on Saturday and again at 11:00AM & 1:00PM on Sunday. Tours will include; the story of the "Battle of Burnsville", troop and weapons drills, informative talks on flags and life on the battle front as well as the home front. Exhibits, in the McElroy House, will include; the Home Guard headquarters and the Museums collection of Civil War era guns, clothing and artifacts.

Events of special interest during the weekend will include campfire songs and storytelling Saturday evening after dark and a field Church Service at 10:00AM on Sunday. Admission is \$3.00, with \$2.00 for each additional family or group member. Children under age 10 are free.

May 18th - Exhibit Dedication

The History Association will be dedicating two new exhibitions.

- > The NCDOT Transportation Enclosure at the Visitor Center.
- > The Jim Ray Memorial Heritage Garden.

The Transportation Exhibit features a 1922 Dodge Roadster similar to the one Dr. Carson McCourry used to make his house calls. The maps and artifacts on display will lead visitors thru time, from the pathways of the regions first Aboriginal visitors to the current planning of Yancey County's first four lane highway.

The Heritage Garden will be a work in progress developed by the Yancey County 4-H and the newly formed Cultural Resource Commission. Plantings in the large fenced area, adjacent to the McElroy House Kitchen, will include heritage vegetables and flowers as well as plants and shrubs indigenous to our area.

The dedication will be held at the Visitor Center at 11:00AM followed by a guided tour of the Museum. The Noon Museum opening to the public will be followed by traditional music under the Maple Tree at 12:30. Guided tours of the Museum will continue through the afternoon.



Ladies Day at the McElroy House

Volunteers from the
Southern Appalachian
Historical Interpreters
Association spend the day
sharing knowledge with
each other and visitors.

Museum Visitors

Learn about the Native Americans of Western North Carolina and the Pioneers who settled Yancey County.





School Days at the Museum

Bee Log Elementary
Students visit the McElroy
House. The History
Museum offers teachers an
excellent educational tool.

Standing Exhibits

Artifacts from the Cane River Archeological Site, circa A.D. 1400
Three to five thousand year old Native American Soap Stone Bowls.
The Busrnville Hospital and local Doctors who brought it to life.
The Time Wall of Newspapers in the old kitchen.
American Veterans and Civil War, the W.N.C. Home Guard Headquarters.
The Capt. Moore Family Master Bedroom, circa 1900.

New In 2002

Sharing History through Technology. An audio visual guide to the Museum.

Yancey History Association Membership 2001 / 2002 Dottie Buker Timothy Babb Evelyn Hope Bailey Tracy Blume Martha Bradshaw **Bradford Butler** Larry Dewer Robert & Beverly Dickinson Ernst Burleson Mrs. J. Harlam Dean Styles Elam Margaret Griffith Michael Hardy John Doyle Jerry Hatfield Ellen B. Hensley Carla & Thomas Harvey Arlon Harris Dennis Howell Gene Hurdt Nancy Jones Mrs. Lawrence King Pat & Janet Hepburn Bonnie McCurry Gary E. McElroy Lelia Lorenzo Ray McCourry Robert E. Lee Jennifer Morgan Clara Peterson Dwayne Peterson Linda McIntosh Linda Gail Meyer Neva Renaldo Lonnie Ray Phillip Ray Sarah Proffitt Grace Pickett Jason Robinson Helen Scoggins Lynda Spivey Stoll's Carriages Roberta Samel William Watts Jr. **Doris Victor** Rebecca Vincent Dennis Thompson Gloria Topczynski Jeanne Williams Barbara Wilson Evelyn Wilson Pat Woody Museum Friends and Volunteers Charlotte Barnett Milidene Baker-Wilson RoAnn Bishop Jonathan Bennett Zack Allen Donn Cook Jim & Debra Farmer Matt Bumgarner Sen. Charles Carter Theresa Coletta Mike Herman Rhonda Gunter Elizabeth Hardy Jody Higgins Bruce Greene Judge Bob Hunter Richard Kev Marvin Holland Joseph & Kristi Hughes Jonathan Hillyer Sen. Steve Metcalf Kaye Meyers Michele Lawhern Kim Mayhew Maggie Lauterer Barbara & Neil Ortagus Ron Powell Kyle Rains Randy Ollis Loy McWhirter Herb Robinson Sandra Ray Jacqueline Red Leaf John Renfro Lee Rexroat **Buster Sparks** Jeffrie Lynn Standen Clyde Styles Dixie Styles Rick & Shelly Rudisill Bill Whiteside Armin Wessell Jane Willia Jacquie Thurston Phillip Trew **Donor Members** Robert&Barbara Branch Paul & Frances Burton James & Judy Byrd Tom & Helen Baden Charlotte & Roger Derrough Sheelagh Donaldson Lew Fisher Bill Carson Dortha McElroy Greenlee Vera Gregory Mr. & Mrs. Charles Gillespie, Jr. Louis Harlam Jean & Carl Johnson Rob & Wanda Levin Merle Love Irene & Bob Ivory John & Patricia Millen Maurice & Paula McAlister G. Todd McElroy Susan Lyday Charles Price & Ruth Perschbacher Grace & Phillip Picket Marie & Chester Miller Ruth Peake Randall & Nancy Raskin Wilson Ray Sandra Revis Ralph & Martha Priesmeyer Mr & Mrs William Shurley H. F. & Sue Smith Mr.& Mrs. Stanley Smith Martin Webster Norma Westall Jay & Carol Wilson Earle & Nan Wise Greg & Hiroko Yuziuk **Contributor Members** Paula & Fred Buck Pat Cole J. Michael Allen Lloyd Bailey Family Marie Peake Duncan Thomas & Norma Dellinger Jim & Margie Haaga Francis Higgins Paul Kardulis Dennis & Tina Matelski Evelvn Howell Ed & Doris Hunter Keith Presnell Dorothy & Mack Ray Rabon Robinson Renata & Vern Sawyer Robert Wolf Stuart Wilson Perry Dean Young James & Judy Seay Bronze Sponsor Members James Floyd W C Hyatt Keith & Jennie Johnson Llewellyn Estep Iris Ray Meyer Col. & Mrs. Vincent Norako Sue Paris John & Tammy Pruitt Walter & Ann Savage **Bob & Shelba Thomas** The Toe River Arts Council Silver Sponsor Members Carolina Collision CraftPride Gallery Bill & Ginny Banks Erwin Burhoe John & Denise Young Frederika Sargent Earl & Betty Young Town of Burnsville Gold Sponsor Members David & Carolyn Cort Mountain Air County Club Bronze Collector Dorothy Westall Silver Collector Member Dr.& Mrs. Garland Wampler **Bronze Benefactors** The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina The John Wesley and Anna Hodgin Hanes Foundation

The Cannon Foundation

The Janirye Foundation

Silver Benefactors

Yancey County Government

North Carolina Department of Transportation

Mary Louise Wray Conner & her father Rush T. Wray North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources



Yancey History Association

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Estatoee (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.

Editors: Lloyd Bailey
Co-Editor: Jim Priesmeyer
Officers of the Association
President: Keith Johnson
Vice-President: Jason Robinson

Treasurer: Denise Young Secretary: Desiree Huskins

Directors: Tim Babb, Shelba Thomas Executive Director: Jim Priesmeyer

Museum Hours

April & October

Wednesday 10:00 - 4:00 p.m. Saturday 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.

May through September

Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 - 4 p.m. Saturday 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Admission \$1.00

Upcoming Events and Exhibits

The "Living Historians" will be at the Museum the third Saturday of each month

The return of the "C.C.C."

<u>Civilian Conservation Corp. exhibit in May</u>

Call the Museum for details (828) 682-3671