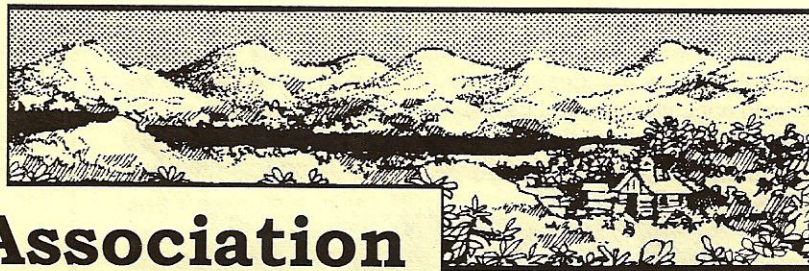


# ESTATOE

Quarterly Newsletter

## Yancey History Association



Volume XVI, No. 11

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

Spring 2007

### A Message from your President

Our plans for the season opening of the museum originally included a tour of the garden, but mother nature has not cooperated very well. Most of the daffodils peaked the last week of March. We know there will still be some color, just not as much come opening day. April is a busy month for us. We hope you will plan to attend and enjoy our efforts to enlarge and expand the "Commemoration of the Battle of Burnsville" this year.

Thanks again to WNC Community Foundation we have made the purchase of a wonderful new computer and part of the other supplies provided under the grant of \$3,500, which was received in December. We are also working on the front parlor using monies provided by the Saunders Foundation Grant in the amount of \$1,000. Coleman Hyatt and his family have provided us with more of the history behind the old post office box which we will be moving from upstairs to the front parlor. Our museum once served as a post office. The descendants of Judge Hyatt (who lived near Burnsville Elementary School) donated the old post office box years ago, and we are finally able to restore the room to what it might have looked like as a post office and parlor from the Moore period.

Board members and other volunteers have been a great help in painting and repairing the upstairs office and apartment rental spaces. We hope to have both units rented by May. Volunteers have also helped with the spring cleaning for the museum. Howard Smith (Smitty) has begun cataloging the collections, this includes a written history/identification page and digital photograph of each item which has been assigned an accession number into the YHA Collections Master List. The YHA office is still undergoing internal business development which now includes a written policy and procedure manual covering everything from personnel, utilities, insurance plans, board of directors meetings and much more. Some 45 policies have already been completed, and more work is underway.

We tried to make the most of the winter season. While the museum was closed, we concentrated on general needs, and a business plan should be completed before the end of the summer. You will also find a copy of the proposed By-laws changes in this issue. Please take time to study them and give us some feed back. We need to make these changes in order to stabilize the board and allow more positive growth of the association. Our current bylaws have many deficiencies which must be addressed between now and the annual meeting (the first Saturday in October).

At a recent museum workshop which I attended, I discovered the trends we see in membership and participation in YHA activities are quite the "norm" for this day and time. Since 1960, 32 of the major organizations surveyed showed a steady decline in membership, attendance at meetings and programs, and volunteerism. At least it helps to know that we are not alone here at YHA, but without volunteers we will not be able to accomplish nearly as much. If you have high expectations for YHA, then we need your help in making things happen. If you can give money,

please do so; if you can give of your time and talents, please do so; if you cannot do either, please help us find those who can. Come get actively involved in preserving our past for the future.

*Elaine Dellinger*

### APRIL'S BIG EVENT

#### Commemoration of the Battle of Burnsville

Take a walk back in time for a weekend on April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning with Doc Holliday's field hospital which will be set up in the museum with talks and demonstrations throughout the day. At 12:30 Judy Lackey will present a "Period Fashion Show" at the museum. The battlefield will be open at times during the day except during the battle re-enactment, so watch for signs with times.

*2007 Commemoration of*

**"The Battle of Burnsville"**

THE MUSEUM SITE IS PART OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA CIVIL WAR TRAILS PROGRAM



SPONSORED IN PART BY:  
YANCEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION  
AND THE  
RUSH WRAY MUSEUM OF YANCEY COUNTY HISTORY  
22ND NC Co. B and 22ND NC Co. K  
BURNSVILLE PHARMACY  
AND OTHERS

*Saturday, April 21st 9 - 4 PM*  
*Sunday, April 22nd 9 - 4 PM*

VISIT THE FIELD HOSPITAL AT THE MUSEUM, WHICH WILL BE OPEN BOTH DAYS  
ADMISSION \$3.00 ADULTS CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE.. FIELD CAMPS WILL ALSO BE  
OPEN EACH DAY. BATTLE RE-ENACTMENT WILL TAKE PLACE EACH AFTERNOON  
RE-ENACTORS IN PERIOD ATTIRE WILL HELP TO TELL THE STORIES OF BOTH THE UNION AND  
CONFEDERATE ARMIES. PERIOD MUSIC, A 1860'S FASHION SHOW AND MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES  
ARE PLANNED EACH DAY.  
VISIT THE LLOYD BAILEY ANNEX GIFT SHOP AND GENEALOGY ROOM WHILE HERE.

BATTLE FIELD ENCAMPMENT AND BATTLE RE-ENACTMENT  
WILL BE LOCATED IN THE FIELD ABOVE BURNSVILLE PHARMACY  
ON THE BYPASS

*Contact the Yancey History Association  
at 208-3671 for more details*



THE MCELROY HOUSE WHICH HOUSES OUR  
MUSEUM WAS THE HOME OF THE WESTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA HOME GUARD UNDER THE  
COMMAND OF BRIG. GENERAL JOHN W  
MCELROY IN THE LATER PART OF THE  
WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE

NOTICE: The property owner or the Yancey History Association will not be responsible for any medical expenses resulting from injuries occurring at the battlefield site during the two day event. Reminders of the policy will be posted.

## Need Help in Identifying the Family Line

Can you identify to which line of the Hensley family these folks belong? This is just one example of the many photographs we have in our collection. Let us know if you are interested in seeing YHA publish a Volume II of Images of Yancey Pictorial History of a Western North Carolina County, which has been reprinted four times. Contact: 208-3671



## Genealogy Inquiry

We are searching for proof of the following for the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR): that Thomas Wiseman BAKER (@1818-1904) married Elizabeth GARDNER. When did Thomas and Elizabeth get married? That Thomas W. Baker was the son of Thomas Baker (1782-1860) who married Susannah Wiseman. When did Thomas and Susannah get married?

Reply to: D. Silver, 4178 Goose Creek Rd, Marion NC 28752

## Yancey History Association Proposed Bylaw Changes

The following recommendations are from John Beaver, Director of the Western Regional Branch of the NC Archives and History in Asheville. He made a site visit and examined our records closely in November 2006, meeting with Elaine Dellinger, Howard "Smitty" Smith and Colette Blankenship.

The changes are in five main areas:

- Section II. Organizational:** Terms of Office for the Executive Board of Directors
  - 3 yr. term (2 rotate off this year, 2 the next year and 2 on the third year). This will set in place staggered terms in an effort for no more than two (2) vacancies each year thereafter.
  - President will not rotate to the position of at large director with the new plan.
  - Vice-President (president-elect) will be more clearly defined in the text.
  - Any unexpected vacancy mid term will be appointed by the board of directors as the interim for the remainder of the term and will be obligated to the same length of term.
  - The Secretary shall serve as Parliamentarian
- Section III. Membership:** A Probationary Period for New Members
  - New Association Members must have been a member for more than six months before being eligible to vote. To distinguish them from junior members in the text, they will be referred to as Association Members.
  - Junior Members will be defined as members under the voting age of 21, having all rights relating to membership with the exception of voting privileges until they become 21 years of age.
  - Dues means an individual (one), a family (two or more people living within the same household and budget).

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## Quarterly Board/ Membership and Genealogical Society Meeting Dates



April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. (Genealogical Society meets in the annex conference room)

July 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

July 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. (Genealogical Society)

October 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting 2 p.m.

October 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. (Genealogical Society)

- The regular board meeting for the executive board members will be the third Tuesday of each month with few exceptions. Phone, e-mail or radio may handle notices of cancellations.

### 3. Section I. Organizational : Add a Section Regarding Employee/s

Clearly state that the association shall employ one part time museum manager, who shall provide the day to day operations of the association as well as tours, exhibits and displays in the museum itself. All board members will be expected to lend support and assistance as indicated. The text relating to Curator should be removed.

### 4. Section V. Elections:

Note: If all members are to be included in the voting process, a provision needs to be made to have voting done by a written ballot which has been mailed to the current voting members. Otherwise, only a few make the decision for many if the vote is taken at and during the annual meeting only. More work needs to be done on this section.

### 5. Section I. Organizational:

- Consider expanding the board from two directors at large to either four directors at large OR Creating, as previously proposed, a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President AND adding a position of Historian.

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## TRILLIUM PLACE GUESTHOUSE

(vacation rental) Open Year Round

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Email: [elained@yancey.main.nc.us](mailto:elained@yancey.main.nc.us)

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Telephone 828-682-7524

## Tentative Calendar of Events 2007

**April 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Commemorating the Battle of Burnsville at the museum and on the field beside Burnsville Pharmacy.

**May 17<sup>th</sup>** - 10:30 a.m. YHA hosts the Museum in Partnership meeting with a tour of the complex followed by lunch in the conference room.

**May** - Special toy exhibit for school group tours during the month

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Spring yard sale

**June 21<sup>st</sup>** - 5:30 p.m. After Business Hours (spaghetti dinner)

**July** - Veteran's exhibit during the entire month

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** - 2:00 p.m. Program by Col. Charles E. Wilson  
(Air campaign against Japan)

**Oct/Nov** - Pig Pickin' at Town Center  
(date and time to be announced)

The **April 7<sup>th</sup>** pancake Breakfast was postponed for a later date. Announcements will be made by local newspaper and radio station.

## Living History and Heritage Project...

Well, when it seemed we were simply having to abandon the project of moving the local Civil War era cabin to the museum grounds, we have had a volunteer to come forward to lead the project. Lloyd Allen has agreed to coordinate the dismantling and reassembly of the "Proffitt-Cousins" log cabin which had been deeded to YHA a few years ago. Our Manager has talked and discussed this project with the cabin donor, Marge Pozner Thompson, and she is delighted that we can move on with this wonderful piece of history. We would like to thank Mrs. Thompson for her patience and interest in the Yancey History Association.

We have established a restoration fund for this endeavor. We would like to thank all who have made donations to this project. We need additional volunteers and monetary donations to cover at least one week of labor by a qualified builder, whom we have located. Some of the cost has already been met, but we still need about \$1,500 for supplies and miscellaneous items. Our budget has not included this project, so it will need to be self-supporting. If you wish to volunteer or give donations, please contact either Colette or Lloyd Allen.

## Green Knob Fire Tower and the South Toe WPA Fish Hatchery Project Partnership

A few months ago the history association began meeting with Lloyd Allen in preparation for a larger partnership project of restoring the old fire tower and fish hatchery. We have already had several meetings (watch for an announcement of an open meeting about this soon. Colette Blankenship, Manager, and Elaine Dellinger, President, have traveled with some other volunteers to the Big Ivy site to see first hand the work completed by Lloyd Allen in restoring their fire tower. The tower was actually moved from the ridge top to the Big Ivy Historical Society Museum site (formerly the old CC Camp). At this time we are planning a meeting with the Chief Archaeologist of the National Forest Service here in WNC. Once this meeting is complete, we hope to help in partnering with others to preserve this site. The Passport In Time, an archaeological program sponsored by the NFS appears to be the ideal way to get this project off the ground. This program operates on volunteer's led by an archaeologist from the NFS. The history association wishes to partner along with members of the Yancey Historic Preservation Commission and other local groups and individuals. Over the years we have lost many of our historic sites in the county. This will be one less lost.

We have had another meeting and have the support of the Forest Service. At present a proposal for grant funding is in the works.

If you wish to give monetary support or to volunteer for the project call the office at 208-3671 and find out the date of the next meeting.

## The Heritage of the Toe River Valley – Volume VI now ready for publication

If you would like to get a copy of this book at a pre-published price then mail a request along with a check for the cost, including your name, address, e-mail (if available), and a telephone number.

Send to: Lloyd Bailey, 4122 Deep Wood Circle, Durham, NC 27707

Pre-published price: \$75.00 Deadline for Pre-publication Discount is **May 1, 2007**. After the discount date the book will cost \$80.00

For any questions regarding the book, call museum cell: 828-208-3671

### SPRING 2007 NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

#### HOURS:

Mon.-Fri. 8:30-6:30  
Sat. 9:00-2:00

Scott Lackey, RPh.



310 West Bypass  
P.O. Box 1768  
Burnsville, NC 28714

(828) 682-9901  
Fax: (828) 682-9930  
After Hours: 284-3342

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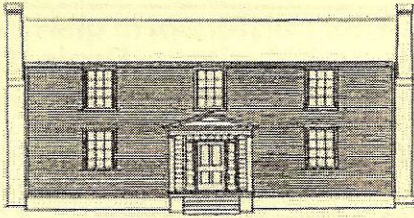
*Trust in the Lord with all your heart.*

Monday-Friday  
9:00-4:00

Serendipity  
CUSTOM FRAMES

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Michele Presnell  
828-682-6516



## Yancey History Association

Post Office Box 1088  
Burnsville, NC 28714

### Estatoe Quarterly Newsletter



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

## MUSEUM HOURS

### 2007 Schedule

#### Lloyd Bailey Annex:

##### January - February

Friday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

##### March - December

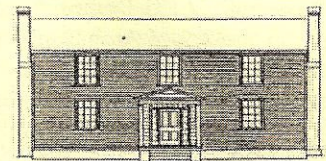
Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thanksgiving and Christmas Week Closed

#### Museum Season:

##### April 1<sup>st</sup> - October 31<sup>st</sup>

Wednesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



## ESTATOE

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P.O. Box 1088  
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(828) 682-3671*

*Estatoe (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.*

#### **Officers & Staff Directory:**

*Editor:* Barbara Branch

*Assistant Editor:* Colette Blankenship

*Contributing Editor:* Dr. Lloyd Bailey

*President:* Elaine Dellinger

*Vice-President:* Bob Wilson

*Treasurer:* Scott Lackey

*Secretary:* Jodie Tipton

*Director:* Virginia Ray

*Director:* Tracy Cox

*Museum Manager:* Colette Blankenship

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