

# ESTATOE

Quarterly Newsletter

## Yancey History Association



Volume XVI, No.2

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

Spring/Summer 2002

### **Jacque Redleaf guest speaker - Thursday July 25th**

Jacque Redleaf Garneau will present a program sharing an inside look into her book "Rattlesnake Singing". The book is a collection of poems, quotes and thoughts that clarify the meaning and spirit of the American Indian. The program will be held at the Museum at 7:30 PM. The program is free and the public is cordially invited. The book will be available for purchase and to be signed by Redleaf. For further information call (828) 682-3671.

### **Support the Museum - Buy raffle tickets**

The Yancey History Association has also received the gracious donation of a beautiful circa 1900 American Indian Ceremonial Basket from Jacque Redleaf, the Association's President, to be raffled off to raise money for the History Museum's operations. The Double Bottom Masters basket with Hoop of the World handle is made from river cane and contains objects of great significance in American Indian ceremonies. The contents include: a white rabbit pelt, a turtle shell filled with cedar from a fallen tree that stood in an ancient Cherokee burial ground, Indian tobacco rapped in red cloth, Indian corn, sage and a wreath of sweetgrass that were used at the Sundance Ceremony. Redleaf will also answer questions and share the lore behind this very special basket. The History Association will be selling \$1.00 tickets or six tickets for \$5.00.

### **Share the History Museum Experience with a Friend**

The History Museum has changed since your last visit! Our collections continue to grow improving our ability to tell the story of the History of Yancey County and Burnsville. The Museum has just opened a new exhibit that provides a time-line that carries the visitor through an estimated 14000 years of human habitation of our county. From the time of the oldest known artifact that has ever been found in Yancey County, a Mastodon tooth, to the 1950's visitors can compare the global events that shaped human development to the changes that took place here.

This new exhibit "The Brush Creek Site, 10000 years of artifacts found in 10 cubic feet" ties together the Museums three to five thousand year old Native American Soap Stone Bowls with the artifacts from the Cane River Archeological Site, circa A.D.1400. The time-line carries the visitor forward through the time that the Cherokee dominated the landscape to the time that the first Europeans settled here following the American Revolution.

The "Rings of Life" on the 200 year old Hemlock and the use of essential developmental articles like newspapers, textiles, firearms and artificial light carry the visitors through more modern history connecting them with the Museums other exhibits.

### **Directors Notes:**

Did you see the article about our Museum in the Charlotte Observer? The story appeared in the Travel Excursions section several Sundays ago. The article, written by Gary McCullough, included a picture as well as an area map to help folks find the Museum and Burnsville. I hope this will be the beginning of a new level of understanding relative to the positive impact that the History Museum can have on our local economy. If the Museum is properly supported by local business owners we can develop the Museum into a Regional Landmark.

The Museum has come a long way since Mr. McCullough visited last October. The article made it clear that any visitor would find a fine assortment of quality artifacts to view and would leave with a better understanding of our local history. The History Museum's collections were termed "eclectic" which was a very fair assessment of what we had to offer at that time.

The most difficult challenge to any new Museum is to assemble the articles and artifacts that are contributed into a cohesive collection that presents a clear story. One of the first visitors to the Museum this year wrote the following in the guest book: "To many life like memories. Life was Hard." I believe our story is becoming clear and true. Thanks for your support.  
Jim Priesmeyer



**Welcome New Members  
Thank You for Your Support !**

Breece Beresford - Mitzi Burgher - Susan Burkins - Elaine Dellinger  
Erla O'Dell - David Oye & Judy Smith - Anne Swann - Tom Tilson

**Donor Members**

Bill & Carolyn Brown - Maggie Carpenter - Doris & Max Gaskin  
George Honeycutt - Joseph & Maxine Kandra - Mr & Mrs Harvey Lewis  
Harriet & Jack Tarver - Juanita Woodland

**Sponsor Members**

Peggy Capes - Don & Mary Corcelli - Marti Corwin  
Mr & Mrs John Douglas - Pat & Jackie Morey - Keri & Sandra Oswald

**Bronze Sponsor Members**

William & Caryl Cullom - Suzanne Planti - Joey Simpson & Lyn Wiseman

**History Museum Hours**

**May - September**

**Tuesday & Wednesday  
10:00 - 4:00 PM  
Saturday 12:00 - 5 PM  
Sunday 1:00 - 5:00 PM**

**October**

**Wednesday 10:00 - 4:00 PM  
Saturday 12:00 - 5 PM**

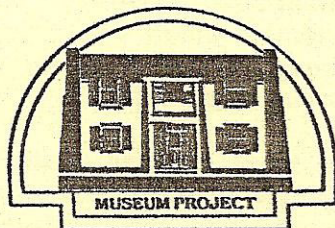
**New Exhibit**

**"14000 years of Yancey History"**

A time-line that uses aboriginal, Native American and American Indian spear-points, projectiles and arrowheads, all found in Yancey County, as a cross reference to world History.

**Upcoming Events**

**Heritage Day - October 5  
McElroy Holiday House - Dec. 6 & 7**



*"Preserving Our Mountain Heritage"*

**Yancey History Association**

Post Office Box 1088  
Burnsville, NC 28714