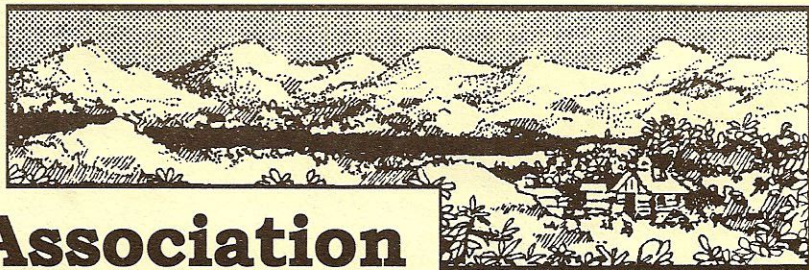


ESTATOEE

Quarterly Newsletter

Yancey History Association



Volume XVI, No. 3

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

Fall 2002

The Museum of Yancey County History Fall Events 2002

October 5th - Family Heritage Day

The Yancey History Association will present a day of fun and informative sharing on Sat. from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. This is a free event, however donations will be gladly accepted. Y.H.A. will be selling food and drinks to cover event costs.

If you have an interest in storytelling and mountain lore, your Civil War ancestors, American-Indian culture or ancestry, Yancey County genealogy and the rich heritage behind the strong willed pioneers who settled this region after the American Revolution you won't want to miss this event. The following professionals will be at the Museum to answer your questions on these topics.

Elizabeth Baird Hardy is a professional storyteller whose tales come from her Baird ancestors, and from her extended immediate family in Kentucky. Her "Tales from Two Creeks" is a collection of stories collected from her father's family on Jellico Creek and her mother's family on Indian Creek. She carefully weaves together snippets of tales into stories that are funny, heart-breaking, exciting, scary and always full of mountain life. Elizabeth is an English instructor at Caldwell Community College, where she also teaches Southern Culture. She has written articles on storytelling, historic interpretation, and mountain women during the Civil War.

Michael Hardy is a Civil War historian, freelance writer and guest historical speaker whose primary area of focus is the Mountain South. He has written articles for several national publications including; North & South and America's Civil War. His history of the Thirty-seventh North Carolina Troops will be published by McFarland early next year. Michael is currently vice-president of the Yancey History Assn. and has been one of the History Museum's most dedicated volunteers since the Museum opened in 1999. As assistant librarian at Caldwell Community College, he teaches popular workshops on genealogy and family research.

Jacque Red Leaf Garneau is an American-Indian spiritual leader who is listed in "Who's Who in the World for the 21st Century". She is a Published author, ordained minister, Chief of the Seventh Fire Indian Community and clan mother. Red Leaf has spent the past thirty years teaching an understanding of the American-Indian ways of approaching, seeing, and practicing spirituality, traditions, history, ceremony and spiritual beliefs.

Margaret Griffith is a retired Yancey County school teacher who's ancestors include some of the earliest pioneers that settled Yancey County in the late 1700's and early 1800's. Margaret is organizing a team of local family historians who will offer a broad range of family history in an informal setting. You are encouraged to bring your family pictures and info. to share with others.

December 6th & 7th - McElroy Holiday House

Yancey County students and professional interior decorators are teaming up to decorate the McElroy House for the holidays. The Christmas decor will reflect the holidays of the 1800's complete with period music. The house will be open Friday evening from 5:00 to 8:00 and again on Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Admission will be a \$5.00 donation and refreshments will be served. Come and enjoy the sights, sounds, flavors and aroma of an authentic 1800's Christmas.



Stacymay (seated center) used the "Living Historians" from the Southern Appalachian Historical Interpreters Association for her project research and authentication. The period clothing she made and is wearing in this picture, will be on display in the Museum of History in Raleigh for one year.

Stacymay
 "North Carolina
 2002 First Place
 Tarheel Junior
 History



School Day at the Museum

School Teachers/Moms and Students visit the McElroy House to learn local history and offer assistance with cleaning of the yard and grounds. The History Museum offers teachers and students an excellent educational opportunity.

Welcome New Members

Thank You for Your Support!

Jackie Ward Britton - Carolyn Denton - Douglas Fisher - Bill Huskins
Dwayne Peterson - Vernon Rexroat - Deanne Gibson Roles

Donor Members

Greer & Jeff Denny - Sue Simmons

Sponsor Members

Field Coxe & Flo Henry - Mr. & Mrs. Armin Wessel

Bronze Sponsor Members

John & Suzette Renfro - Peter & Myrna Stephens

A Very Special Thank You!

During the past six years that I have served as the Executive Director of the Yancey History Association we have had our share of financial ups and downs. Financial stability is always the greatest challenge with any new venture, especially a non-profit entity like a History Museum.

I would like to thank all of our patrons who renewed their membership and the many who increased their contribution to a higher level. Our letter, requesting support, generated donations that met the \$2,250 reduction in annual local government support. While we have not met our funding goal our finances are sound. The letter also generated two letters, parts of which I would like to share.

From Ray Carson McCourry: As nephew and namesake of Dr. Carson McCourry I will support the Dodge Roadster Insurance for this year. As a youngster I had many pleasant experiences riding in the original. I deeply appreciate the work that many people are doing for the Yancey History Association.

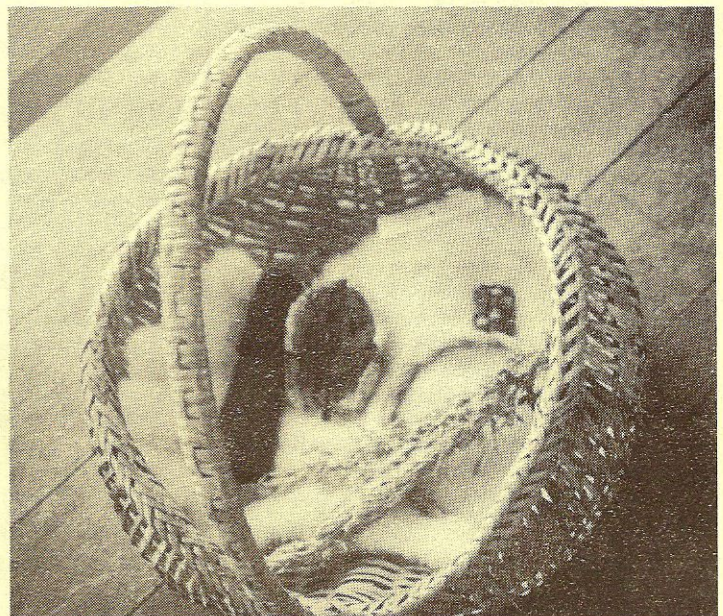
And from Iris Ray Meyer: Dear Jim, My heritage lies in the mountains of North Carolina, particularly Yancey County, and I would like to support you and the Board of Directors' efforts to preserve that history. Enclosed please find my check to sponsor the annual (cost of the) newsletter.

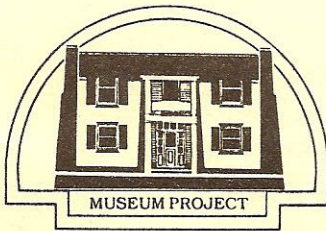
There will be more thank you's in the next Estatoee, but for now my thanks to Ray and Iris.

Jim Priesmeyer

This is your last chance!

The Yancey History Association will draw the winning ticket at the end of Family Heritage Day, October 5th. Y.H.A. received the gracious donation of this beautiful circa 1900 American Indian Ceremonial Basket from Jacque Redleaf Garneau 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 lived in an ancient Cherokee burial ground, Indian tobacco wrapped in red cloth, Indian corn, sage and a wreath of sweet grass that were used at the Sundance Ceremony. Redleaf will be on hand to answer questions and share the lore behind this very special basket. Y.H.A. is selling \$1.00 tickets or six for \$5.00.





Yancey History Association

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Burnsville, NC 28714

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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.

Editors: Lloyd Bailey

Co-Editor: Jim Priesmeyer

Officers of the Association

President: Jacque Redleaf Gameau

Vice-President: Michael Hardy

Treasurer: Dr. Tim Babb

Secretary: Desiree Huskins

Directors: Dr. Keith Johnson, Jason Robinson

Executive Director: Jim Priesmeyer

The Museum of Yancey County History

11 Academy Street
Burnsville, NC 28714

October Hours

April & October

Wednesday 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday 12:00 - 5:00 p.m..

Admission \$1.00

Upcoming Events and Exhibits 2003

Award-winning Appalachian writer Sharyn McCrumb will join us for a reading and book signing of her new novel "Rank Strangers". This should be especially interesting since the stories narrator is McElroy in-law Zebulon B. Vance. Date to be announced.

Jonathan Hillyer's photographic portraits of Yancey County's most valuable treasure; our people.