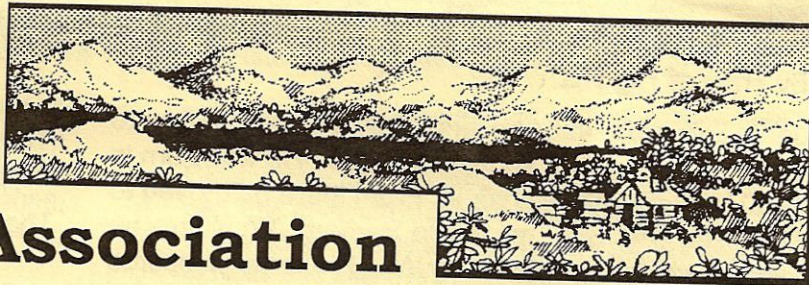


# ESTATOE

Quarterly Newsletter

## Yancey History Association

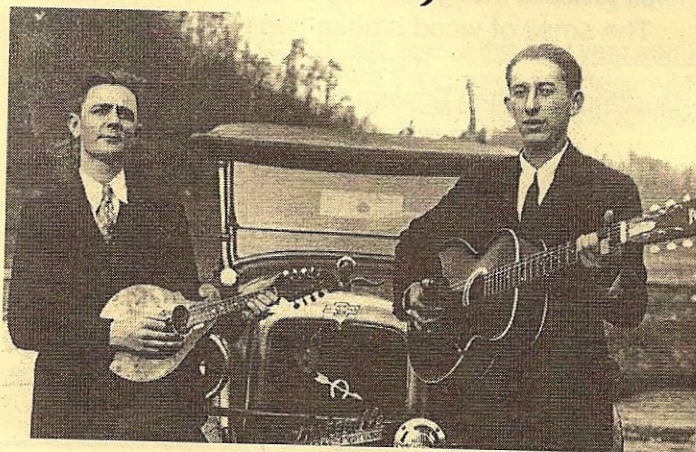


Volume XVII, No. 13

Preserving Our Appalachian Heritage

Fall 2007

### *The Raindrop Waltz*



A Play by Gary Carden. A true story based on the author's experiences growing up in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

The play will be directed by Elizabeth Westall, a favorite of theatre goes in Yancey County. Members of the cast will include Bob Wilson, President of Burnsville Little Theatre & YHA and Colette Blankenship, Museum Manager, Bill Wheeler, Bruce Chuvala, Ann Berdeen, Jennifer Isaacs and Milton Higgins. All performances will be at the Parkway Playhouse in Burnsville.

#### **The showing dates are:**

September 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

September 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm

October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

October 18<sup>th</sup> – the showing will be in Andrews

The Burnsville Little Theatre has designated the performance on Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup> as a fundraiser for the Yancey History Association. Tickets will be on sell at the Lloyd Bailey Annex office on 3 Academy Street.

With every ticket purchased you will receive a copy of the McElroy House Book.

Show your support for the Yancey History Association by buying a ticket and joining us for this special performance at the Parkway Playhouse on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **For ticket information contact:**

Colette Blankenship, Museum Manager 828-678-9587 or Bob Wilson 828-682-2609

### Manager's Report

The YHA is delighted to announce the funding received from the county of \$4000.00 and a \$1000.00 from the town this year. Now the Museum restoration project has met its monetary goal and we can move on with getting the house painted and the job complete. As some of you well know the McElroy house has been looking a little shabby with chipped paint and some of the exterior boards deteriorating. It was a disappointing time to know the oldest house standing here in town and with such a rich history was starting to fade away, like so many historical structures have, and the struggle to preserve this mansion for so many years now has been a hard one, but the Yancey History Association is still thriving to preserve the heritage and history that Yancey County holds. With the help of some of our local supporters and members we want to give a great Thank You to the following:

Joe Giardina – Painter

Curtis Allen – Carpenter

County Commissioners

Town of Burnsville

A Touch of Cass

Tyner's Construction

Charlotte Derrough & Family

Dennis & Tina Matelski – Something Special Gift Shop



# This, That & The Other...our genealogy and history corner

By Frances Higgins

John Edwards was the first Edwards to come into Yancey County then known as Burke. He was born in 1750 in Baltimore, Maryland. From there he moved to McAllister, PA. then moved to Bedford, VA where he resided until the Revolutionary War. His pension records show he volunteered and served several hitches in the army before coming to Jonesboro, TN. His sister Mary had married Christopher Taylor, and they ran a boarding house in Jonesboro. One of their boarders was Andrew Jackson. Due to his stay there, the Taylor house in Jonesboro has been preserved. In 1776 John Edwards married Ruth Crabtree from Bedford County, Va. She had a brother living in Burke County (now Yancey), I suppose that was the reason John and Ruth moved to Yancey, settling in the area now known as Crabtree, which was named for her brother. Two years later John and Ruth applied for a divorce. Deeds show John got all the lands consisting of several hundred acre's Ruth received only a roam mare and a feather bed. Of the eight recorded children they were: William, Sally, Meredith, James, John Jr., Steven, Anna and Edmond. John, James and Edmond fought in the War of 1812.

## AUTUMN PRELUDE

A Poem Written by Frances Higgins

There is a wonderful feeling of anticipation about  
The katydids and cha-chas have long been heralding  
the event  
Cool nights with warm sunny days and flawless  
bright blue skies  
Speak quietly of its approach  
The apple trees stand heavily burdened  
Their jeweled fruit glistening in the early morning sun  
The smell of wood smoke penetrates the crisp  
mountain air  
Summer's fading flowers give way to the wild aster  
Golden rod and frost blossoms  
All of this is a lovely prelude to the final display of  
rampant color  
That begins on the higher elevations and spills down  
the mountainsides  
To the valleys and fields below  
Autumn has come to the mountains to be rived  
Nowhere on this earth with anything else nature has  
to offer.

## Calendar of Events Fall 2007



**September 28th:** Antique Quilt Show thru the month of October

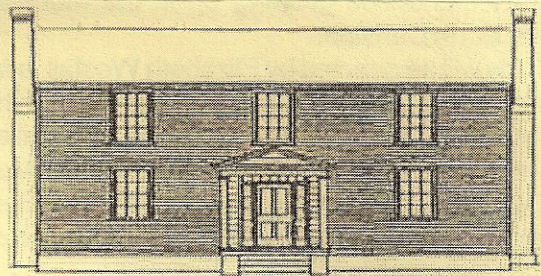
**September 29<sup>th</sup>:** 7:00 – 10:00am Pancake Breakfast on Ole Timey Days  
(located at the First Baptist Church on Town Square)

**October 13th:** Annual Meeting at 2:00pm (new date and time on Saturday)

**December:** 1<sup>st</sup> from 2 – 7pm (weather related)  
Christmas Candlelight Tours

Stone Marker Dedication to be moved to April 2008 while the daffodils are in bloom. Dates will be announced.

**Lloyd Bailey's - Toe River Heritage Valley Volume VI** is still available in limited supply in the annex gift shop. In stock you will also find Volumes III and V, the prices vary from \$29.95 to \$80 plus tax. Many other local titles and authors are available as well. Remember, as a member you get a twenty percent discount on these books and other titles.



## YANCEY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Want To Know More  
Call the Museum at 682-3671  
Cemetery Committee 682-7524



# YANCEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION PROPOSED BYLAWS 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:

**1. 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 the 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

**2. 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).

**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.

**6. One Further Revision is being proposed after more close review of the above.**

- We propose the standing committees that have already been approved now have one more revision. In order to complete all the work required by the board.
- We propose the chairman of each committee serve with full executive director rights as directors at large.

## Let's Make History In Yancey County

### MEMBER APPLICATION

#### Contributions Categories

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ I pledge to increase my contribution to the next level of support.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor (\$50.00) Donor (\$25.00) Member (\$10.00)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Any contribution large or small is welcome.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in contributing items for use and display in the Museum.

*All Gifts to Yancey History Association are tax deductible. Thank You for your support.*

### Yancey History Association

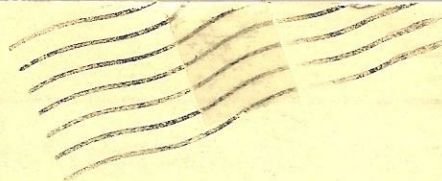
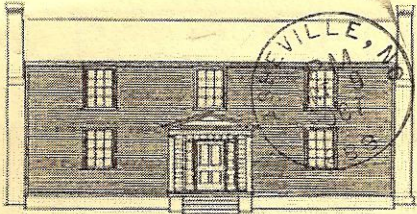
P.O. Box 1088  
Burnsville, NC 28714

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

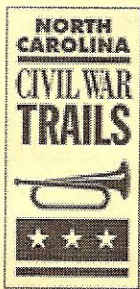


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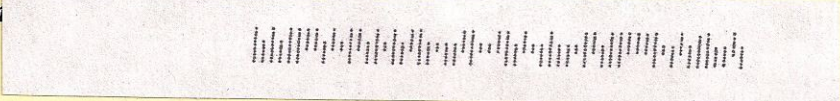
Post Office Box 1088  
Burnsville, NC 28714

### Estatooe Quarterly Newsletter

**Returned for Better Address**



*Our thanks to the Chamber of Commerce  
for supporting our effort in getting the  
McElroy House on*



## MUSEUM HOURS

### 2007 Schedule

#### Lloyd Bailey Annex:

January - February

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

March - December

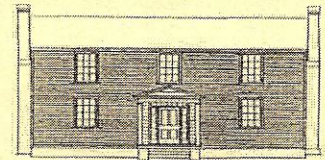
Wednesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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.



## ESTATOOE

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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.

**Officers & Staff Directory:**

*Editor:* Barbara Branch

*Assistant Editor:* Colette Blankenship

*Contributing Editor:* Dr. Lloyd Bailey

*President:* Bob Wilson

*Vice-President:* Bob Wilson, Interim

*Treasurer:* Scott Lackey

*Secretary:* Jodie Tipton

*Director:* Virginia Ray

*Director:* Tracy Cox

*Museum Manager:* Colette Blankenship

**email: [yhmuseum@yancey.main.nc.us](mailto:yhmuseum@yancey.main.nc.us)**

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