



ESTATOOEE

PRESERVING OUR APPALACHIAN HERITAGE

LOYD BAILEY PRESENTATION

The Yancey County Commissioners presented Yancey County native Lloyd Bailey, with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award on Saturday the 7th of September in front of around 80 people crowded into the lobby of the historic Nu Wray Inn, Burnsville.

Governor Pat McCrory bestowed the Order of the Long Leaf Pine upon Dr. Bailey at the recommendation of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners. The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is one of the highest civilian awards given to North Carolina citizens.

Dr. Bailey, a well-known professor of religion and preserver of local history, has written 12 large volumes dedicated to the history and genealogy of the Toe River Valley, (the Counties of Yancey, Mitchell, and Avery) and has six more in preparation.



Johnny Riddle with Lloyd Bailey

In addition, he has volumes entitled History of the Methodist Church in the Toe River Valley; News from Yancey (Articles from Area Newspapers, 1840-1900); five volumes entitled History of the Bailey Family of Yancey County,

N.C.; one volume on The Byrd Family in the Toe River Valley (1,000 pages with two more volumes to follow); and edited and assisted in production of the volume of photos and history, entitled, Images of Yancey, Volume 1.

He has also published more than 100 articles in periodicals, dictionaries and encyclopedias. Because of his work in the area of local history

and genealogy, Dr. Bailey is recognized as an expert in those areas of the Toe River Valley region.

(Extracts from the Yancey Common Times Journal)

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE YANCEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION

The Yancey History Association would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our Board of Directors and volunteers feel that 2013 has been a successful year with new and exciting events taking place each month. If you have not visited the McElroy House and our new log cabin, we invite you to bring your family and friends to see a special place in Burnsville. The Old Timey Day is sponsored by the Yancey History Association and is a special day for

every age each fall. We ask you to visit our webpage and facebook page to be up-to-date on upcoming events each month for 2014. We also write articles for the Yancey Common Times each week to keep the public informed. We thank everyone who was a part of our organization last year and ask that you tell everyone how history of Yancey County is being preserved.

Be happy, happy, happy, this coming year. *Elaine Boone, President*

THE QUILT EXHIBITION

New additions to the Rush Wray Museum of Yancey History quilt exhibit included the 2010-13 NC Mountain State Fair winners by Willoree Risley, who in her retirement years has returned to a craft and labor of love that her mother and grandmother knew well.

Willoree provided the museum exhibit with five award-winning quilts with themes that included Wildflowers, Grandmother's Flower Garden, Jacob's Ladder, Iris and Flower Basket.

The exhibit dated from a slave quilt made in 1810 that belonged to the the Dorothy Westall family, to quilts from the 1820s, 1860s, 1890s, early 1900s through the 1950s, and finally the present day prize winning quilts by Willoree Risley.

Some 25 quilts were on display at the time, ranging from one made of flour sacks, one of hand-dyed fabrics from the 1930s, one of satin ribbon, one of the popcorn pattern, and one in a quilt frame.

For more information about upcoming programs and activities, call the office at 678-9587 or visit our website: www.yanceyhistoryassociation.org





THE 12TH TIPTON FAMILY REUNION IN AT THE BURNSVILLE LIBRARY

Fifty-five people from twelve states attended. The states of Washington, Idaho, Utah, New Mexico, Texas, Missouri, Kentucky, Florida, Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee were represented.

At the business meeting, John Parrish, President presented the Treasury Report for the year which was accepted by the membership.

John Parrish was nominated to be president for the 2013/2017 term. John was elected president.

A vote was taken to determine the most favored location for the 2014

meeting. Bristol, Virginia and a site to be determined in Georgia were the favored locations. The 2014 meeting will probably take place in Bristol, Virginia. A committee volunteered to research the best site in Georgia for 2015.

The highlight of the meeting was Elaine McAlister Dellinger's program Wiley, John D. and Various Tiptons: Fact and Fiction. Elaine was assisted by Grant B. Ward, the expert on the Lost Cove community located on the North Carolina/Tennessee border where many Tipton families resided. In the afternoon, Elaine and Grant divided the participants into family line and interest groups where information was shared and individual questions were answered and discussed.

The Yancey County Library was an excellent facility in which to have our meeting; Melanie Stallings, Main Librarian, and her staff could not have been more accommodating.

We Tiptons thank them very much.

You can visit the Tipton Family Association of America on the web at www.tiptonfamilyassociationofamerica.com

An advertisement for Mt. Helen Estates, placed by Percy Threadgill in the October 1, 1960 edition of *The State* magazine.

From the Mark Huber Collection

PROPOSED EVENTS & ACTIVITIES 2014

APRIL

Opening Day
Women and Period Music

MAY

Confederate Memorial Event
Blue Ridge Pottery Display
Membership Appreciation Day

JUNE / JULY / AUG

Children's Storytelling Camps

JULY

Veterans Day Display

AUGUST

Artisans Display
Live History Weekends

SEPTEMBER

Quilts Display
Old Timey Fall Festival

NOVEMBER

Harvest Tea
Christmas Decorations

All dates to be finalized and other events are still in the planning stages and events above could change.

ESTATOE (es-to-toe-e)

Estatowie in early records. A Cherokee place name, shortened to Estatoe/Estatoah, from which the name Towe of Toe River is derived.

Officers and Staff

Elaine Boone - President
Elaine Dellinger - Vice President
Chris Carter - Secretary
Vivianne Bradley - Treasurer

Board Members:

John Elsegood
Linda Elsegood
Judy Fuqua
Dixie Styles

Bob Wilson - Past President
Jake Blood - Past President

Lloyd Bailey - Founding Member and Historian

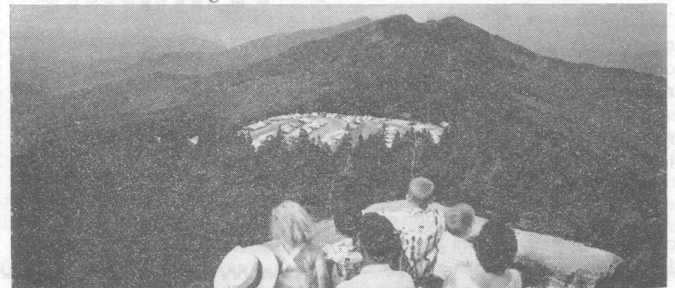
Staff Members:

Marilyn Oakley

Hours:

Wednesday to Saturday
10am - 4pm

ENJOY RELAXED, HEALTHFUL LIVING At the Highest Resort in Eastern America



From the top of famed Mount Mitchell you are looking directly at the lofty beauty of Cattail Peak—the highest privately-owned point East of the Mississippi—where at elevations from 3,200 to 6,609 feet are located the attractive vacation homes and building sites of Mount Helen Estates.
The magnificent scenery . . . quiet, restful atmosphere . . . pure mountain spring water . . . and the relaxed, friendly people who have built here in the Cattail Creek Community, make this the ideal spot for your vacation or retirement homesite.

INVESTIGATE
MOUNT HELEN ESTATES
ON CATTAIL CREEK - PENSACOLA, N. C.

FINDINGS FROM THE CANE RIVER ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

By Ashley Schubert

The prehistoric Cherokee village behind the Cane River Middle School, dated to about AD 1300-1600, was first discovered in 1989 when a septic system was being installed beneath the school's football field. A small area of the village was excavated by the state archaeologist as a salvage project from 1989-1990. As a doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan, I am continuing excavations of the village as part of my dissertation research and am very grateful for the assistance provided by the volunteers from the Yancey History Association. This past fall season we identified several pit features and lines of postholes that indicated the location of the fence, or palisade, that surrounded the village. The recovered artifacts consist mainly of broken pottery vessels and food remains, including animal bone, along with flaked stone tools and several small gaming pieces (like our modern-day dice.) In addition to digging, we also had students from the Cane River Middle School and Mountain Heritage High School come visit the site for hands-on learning about archaeology. I hope to continue excavations again this spring and provide more opportunities for community engagement and involvement - including additions to the Rush Way exhibit this summer.

THE SUN SHONE FOR THE OLD TIMEY FALL FESTIVAL

On a perfect day at the End of September The Old Timey Festival Day took place in Burnsville.

A packed audience sat around the square, listened to music, watched a procession of Antique Cars and Tractors, bought goods from vendors and artisans whilst the children enjoyed games and events including the famous Wooley Worm Race.

Dean Gates, organizer and Sponsors the Yancey History Association, proclaimed this was the best Old Timey Day ever.

SPERMACETI CANDLES & LAMP OIL

The sperm whale, (*Physeter macrocephalus*), or cachalot, is the largest of the toothed whales, with mature males averaging 52 to 67ft. in length, and the head representing up to one-third of this length.

They feed primarily on huge squid and are the deepest diving mammal, plunging to 9,800ft. to catch their prey. It's clicking vocalization, a form of echolocation, may be as loud as 230 decibels, making it the loudest sound produced by any animal.

Females and young males live together in groups and cooperate to protect and nurse their young. Females give birth every 4 to 20 years and care for the calves for more than a decade. Mature males live solitary lives, except during the mating season. The head cavity of the whale contains a liquid wax called spermaceti, from which the whale derives its name. It is said to have a smell similar to raw milk.

After killing a sperm whale, the whalers would pull it along side the ship, cut off the head and pull it on deck, whereupon they would cut a hole in it and bail out the matter inside with a bucket.

Whale oil is actually a liquid wax and not a true oil at all. It is transparent and ranges in color from a bright honey yellow to a dark brown. It was the first oil of any kind to be commercially viable because it could be obtained in mass quantity and was in highest demand due to its enormous worldwide industry. Spermaceti was used in lubricants, oil lamps and candles from the early eighteenth century through the late 20th century.

Whale oil was the fuel of choice of the wealthy, selling at the very costly price of \$2.00 per gallon, which is equal to about \$200.00 a gallon on today's currency. It burned bright and did not create a great



deal of odor. The lamps it was burned in were often very beautiful and very expensive because they were made for people who could well



afford such luxuries.

They were made of pewter, silver, bronze and glass as well as other materials.

The most famous of these oil lamps we know today were made of beautiful flint glass or Sandwich glass. Not many families could afford it for every day use. No household could produce this fuel from its livestock. Before whale oil, most households refined sheep or beef tallow for lamp fuel with some fish oil being used, but fish oil was smelly and dirty to burn.

The era of whale oil as lamp fuel ended about the time of the Civil War and the beginning of the Industrial Revolution.

Abraham Gesner first distilled kerosene from bituminous coal and oil shale experimentally in 1846. Commercial production was achieved in 1854. In the late 1800's, Kerosene quickly became the lamp oil of choice, costing 58 cents a gallon, one-fifth the cost of whale oil.

AMBERGRIS, a waste product from the sperm whale's digestive system, is still being used as a fixative in perfumes.

The SPERM WHALE is now protected by a whaling moratorium, and is currently listed as vulnerable by the IUCN, (International Union for Conservation of Nature), the world's oldest and largest global environmental organization.

Research: Linda Vickers
Elsegood



**EVENTS FOR AUGUST TO NOVEMBER FOR THE
YANCEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION
KEEP THIS CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**



April

Women and Period Music
Opening Day Ceremony

May

Confederate Memorial Event
Blue Ridge Pottery Display
Membership Appreciation Day

June

Children's Storytelling Camp

YANCEY HISTORY ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEERS:

A special thank you goes out to our many volunteers for giving over 4,000 hours of work during 2013. We continue to increase the events at the Museum each year which requires more volunteers to increase the value of our history to our county. We appreciate our active Board of Directors: Elaine Boone-*President*, Elaine Dellinger-*Vice Pres.*, Vivianne Bradley-*Treasurer*, Chris Carter-*Secretary and Historian*, Bob Wilson-*Past President*, Linda Elsegood, John Elsegood, Judy Fuqua, Dixie Styles. Each of these directors play many roles in volunteer activities that keep our organization moving forward. Other volunteers are: Mark Huber, Howard F. Smith, Sara Cochrane, Phyllis Duenas, Debby Nance, James Byrd, Mike & Toni Shelton, Milo & Hana Karpesik, Gwen Bodford, Jody Higgins, Suzette Renfro. Jim Carter, Janet Sing, Logan Bryant, Shirley Bryant.

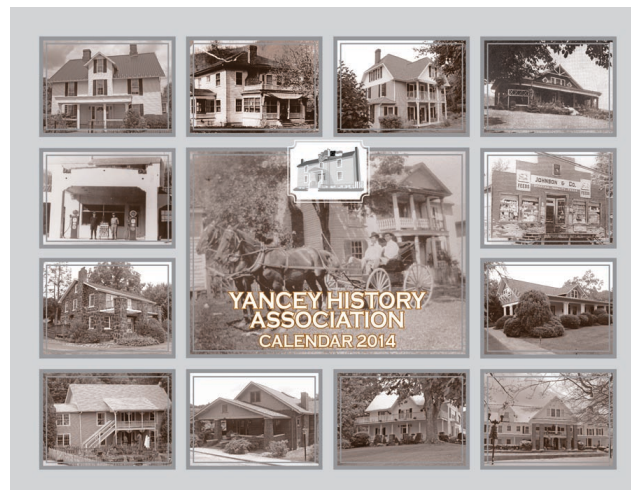
ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers interested in participating in period dress events should contact the office by Feb 1st. As a day will be set for fitting each person with acceptable period dress for the coming season.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to all of our members for helping make 2013 a successful one. As we move forward into 2014 we hope that your continued support and new and existing programs that we will be offering will help the YHA grow in strength.

2014 FUNDRAISING CALENDARS



The 2014, 12 month Calendar is on Sale at our Offices, at The Chamber of Commerce, at Events and on our Website. The Calendars are \$10 each which includes tax. Add an extra \$2 for USPS postage if you require this sent to you. The Calendars will provide needed funds for repairs & renovations to the McElroy House and the Lloyd Bailey Annex.



ESTATOOE

Quarterly Newsletter

Yancey History Association
3 Academy Street
Burnsville
NC 28714

www.yanceyhistoryassociation.org

Stamp