



# ESTATOOEE

PRESERVING OUR APPALACHIAN HERITAGE

## BLACKSMITH BUILDING MAKING GOOD PROGRESS



With the old storage shed being emptied and taken down by the John and Linda Elsegood and 2 inmates, dirt hauled in courtesy of Young and McQueen, landscaping by David Boone (above on the tractor), work has begun and is progressing speedily on the "Smithy".

Our resident Blacksmith, Bill Bache, (picture above with Milo and Hana) worked along side our builders Milo and Hana Karpisek and Tom

Smith (center picture with Elaine Boone), and Bob Wilson in planning the Smithy. A work detail courtesy of Gary Banks, Sherriff, Yancey County Sherriff's Department under supervision from Milo, Hana and Tom have started construction of this new addition to the museum.

A special thanks to Bob Wilson, Elaine and David Boone and Bill Bache for the wood supplied for this project.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT YANCEY PUBLIC LIBRARY ON OCTOBER 12TH

All are welcome to the Annual General Meeting which is to be held at the Yancey County Public Library, School Circle, Burnsville, NC, on **October 12th from 2pm to 4pm.**

A powerpoint presentation will be shown of the "Year in Review" which will highlight the activities and events over the last, very busy year.

**Our Guest speaker is Paddy Downing-Nygard.** She and her husband Ron live in a cabin on Cattail Creek. Paddy is the daughter of Capt. George and Phyllis Downing who started the Yancey County Country Store where the Garden Deli is now located. Paddy has been a lover of horses since childhood and now her career is traveling the United States and Canada to judge horse shows. In 1957, the Downings purchased an old cabin built in the early 1940's that was owned by Dr. Edward Mack, Jr. He and other scientists did work on the **Manhattan Project at Cattail.** The story is that a part of the atomic bomb was designed on a table that still remains in the kitchen at the Downing cabin. Refreshments will be served.



*Membership Cards with renewal dates are attached to this newsletter or emailed separately if your newsletter is emailed. Only up to date members have Voting Rights. If you have a **red date** it will mean your membership requires renewing. If you have a **black date** you are up-to-date.*

## MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION DAY 2014

A small crowd gathered at the Proffitt Cousins Cabin on the grounds of the McElroy House and enjoyed music from the Typical Mountain Boys and Taylor Berry. An array of delicious desserts and rootbeer floats, ice cream and soft drinks were enjoyed in the afternoon sunshine.

Members and visitors alike toured the Quilt Exhibition in the McElroy House and also checked out the progress of the Smithy which is being constructed next to the cabin.

One of the songs was recorded and put on youtube by John Elsegood and can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34GC6ze648c>



### ESTATOEE (es-to-toe-e)

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

#### Board Members

Elaine Boone - *President*  
Chris Carter - *Secretary*  
Vivianne Bradley - *Treasurer*  
John Elsegood  
Linda Elsegood  
Judy Fuqua  
Dixie Styles  
Bob Wilson

Jake Blood - *Past President*

Lloyd Bailey - *Founding Member and Historian*

#### Staff Members:

Marilyn Oakley

#### Hours:

Wednesday to Saturday  
10am - 4pm

## TIME TRAVEL - CHILDRENS STORYTELLING CAMP

For the second year Sherry Lovett, Storyteller and Educator has entertained and educated an enthusiastic group of youngsters.

The kids were invited to step into YHA's time travel summer camp. When they entered the camp in the morning and left for the afternoon all the students went through the time machine. Each day the Time Machine was set to a different era in History. The kids got to paint their faces like Celts and decide the fate of a petitioner,



hunted like a Cherokee, participated in a marble game showdown, hid from the Union Army during a Civil War battle, trace the steps of a runaway slave... and so much more.

We look forward to another camp in the summer of 2015.



## PICKIN ON THE PORCH



Each Sunday in June and August the Proffitt Cousin Cabin came alive with music.

Members and volunteers Ron and Minnie Powell who's idea this was, always start and finish the entertainment and invite friends who show up to play on the porch. Often all the musicians play together.

Since its inception many pickers have come to love the acoustics of the porch and every week there has been a very enthusiastic crowd. This has been so successful that it will be held

next year.

Last September we ran a power supply underground to both the Smoke House and Cabin with a spur planned to reach the Smithy when completed.

### A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

GOLD SPONSOR - GARDEN DELI

SILVER SPONSORS -

SOMETHING SPECIAL, DAVID BOONE

WOODCARVING, LOCKE & SHEILA

RAMSEY, THE BUCK HOUSE INN and

HAL & DIANE COLEMAN

## OLD TIMEY FALL FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 27TH SPONSORED BY THE YHA

A full schedule of events are planned for what looks like the biggest Old Timey Fall Festival to date. Music, Dance, Games, Vendors and the Antique Car and Tractor parade. The festival kicks off at 10am with the National Anthem and concludes with the Prize Drawing at 4pm. Bring your lawn chairs for a great day of entertainment.



## VETERANS EXHIBIT AND BBQ

YHA invited veterans to a BBQ on July 12. The theme for this year's event was "Military Humor" or "War Is Not All Hell". Veterans were invited to bring their appetite and favorite funny story or recollection from their military service to share with fellow veterans. Over 40 veterans attended the BBQ. Schedule for the event included a



get acquainted hour 11:30 to 12:30 lunch 12:30-1:30, and the storytelling program from 1:30 Until the laughter ceases. A good time was had by all. The Veteran Exhibition courtesy of Bob Wilson, was from both World Wars plus Korea and Vietnam.

## WHY VOLUNTEER?

Hana and I used to come to the Appalachian mountains many summers with our sons to camp and hike these beautiful mountains. We had traveled the entire length of the Blue Ridge Parkway many times and loved the old log cabins and history of the mountain people.

When we retired we bought a log cabin in our beloved mountains and really started discovering them. We both are active people so after first two years of driving and hiking the mountains we decided to put our energy to use.

We met Mrs. Elaine Dellinger at the Museum and told her about our wish to volunteer. With our background in construction we very quickly gained museum Board confidence and set to refurbish the museum, smoke house, reconstruct the Proffitt cabin and currently we are in process of building an old blacksmith shop.

Hana and I came over to this country as a political refugees from the communist Czechoslovakia over 40 years ago. We came penniless without families but this great country allowed us to spread our wings and to discover in our selves God given talents which we put to use and achieved the American dream. We love this country of ours and want to share our talents with community where we live. Volunteering gives us a great personal joy that we can be useful even in our retirement years and and gives us enrichment in that we are constantly learning something new. Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, start new friendships, stay active and help the community. We encourage everyone to get involved in volunteering and thus enriching not only themselves but the community itself.

Special thanks to Elaine Dellinger, Bob Wilson and Elaine Boone in providing assistance and support for all the projects and especially thanks to Tom Smith for helping us with his log cabin building expertise .

Hana nad Milo Karpisek

## EARLY BLACKSMITHS IN AMERICA'S HISTORY

Blacksmithing is an integral part of American History.

They were valued because they made the tools that were needed for everyday life, like plow points, knives, axes, cooking utensils, chains, wagon wheels, and much more.

Ephraim

Cole was an early blacksmith, born 1659 in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and the grandson of James Cole, born in Middlesex, England, also a Blacksmith, Inn Keeper and Shoemaker.

James Cole was the owner of Cole's Hill, located behind Plymouth Rock, and first burial site during the Pilgrim's first hard winter.

In 1685, Ephraim Cole built what may be one of the first blacksmith shops in America.

It was located at the corner of Leyden and Maine Streets and remained in

the family until 1872.

The shop was still standing in 1903 as depicted in this hand colored picture postcard.

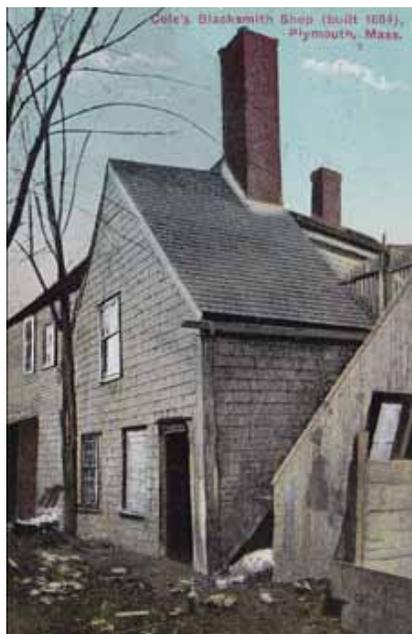
The information on Ephraim Cole's Blacksmith Shop as being the first to be built in America is recorded in the Library of Congress, Guide To Historic Plymouth Illustrated. [www.archive.org/stream/tohistoricp00burbank/tohistoricp00burbank\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/tohistoricp00burbank/tohistoricp00burbank_djvu.txt) Listed under OLD HOUSES.

Thanks to Jody Higgins, Yancey Journal and to Lloyd Bailey, author of *Toe River Valley Heritage*. All of these books are in The Yancey History Association's genealogy room for anyone to enjoy.

More on "Blacksmiths in America's

History" to be continued in the next two newsletters.

Linda Vickers Elsegood  
Research



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



**September**

Quilt Presentation Program  
Old Timey Fall Festival

**October**

Annual General Meeting  
Halloween on the Square

**November**

Havest Tea

**December**

Non-Profit Day & Christmas Parade

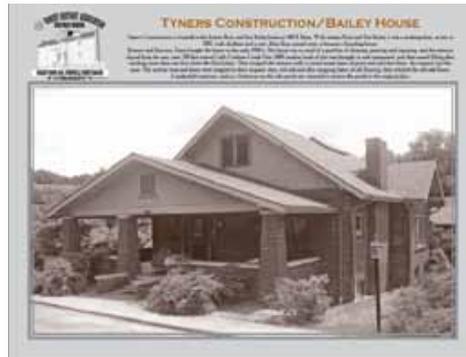
**GENEALOGY LIBRARY  
HAS A NEW HOME**



The Genealogy Room at the Lloyd Bailey Annex was moved to give more light and space to our guests who come in to trace their family history. Books and an HP Windows computer with internet access are available. Copies of documents are available at a small charge. The Room is available during office hours or by special request.

Last Pages: September, October, November and December from our First Fundraising for YHA Calendar 2014 with a story behind each photograph. Although only 4 months are left on this

Calendar at \$3 it is good value with only few copies are still available and we have reduced the price to \$3 plus postage available through our website or come in to our gift shop to pick up your copy.



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Quarterly Newsletter

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