



# NEWSLETTER

BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOX 874, SHALLOTTE, N.C. 28459

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VOLUME XLIII

FEBRUARY 2003

NUMBER 1

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## FEBRUARY MEETING TO BE HELD AT BEMC IN SUPPLY, NC FEBRUARY 10, 2003 7:30 P.M.

The next meeting of the Brunswick County Historical Society will be held in the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation meeting room, 795 Ocean Highway West, Supply, NC.

The speaker will be Captain Harold Hickman from Calabash, NC. His book, "The Spirit of Living In and Around Calabash—Yesteryear, Yesterday and Today" was published in 2001. It consists of 362 pages of local history and events that he has experienced over the past seventy-five years. Morgan H. Harris, in the Foreword, wrote "His natural writing ability allows the readers to also enjoy being a part of the eastern area of the Carolinas." Capt. Hickman will captivate you with his never-ending hunting and fishing tales as well as tidbits of local lore. In his Acknowledgements he thanks all the people in Calabash, Little River, West Brunswick County, Crusoe Island, Pireway, and Horry County who stood hitched in one place long enough with answers, which enabled me to clarify a ton of questions. You've asked a long time for him to speak to our Society so now your requests have been fulfilled. Mark your calendar and let's have a big turnout for him.

The Board of Directors met on Sunday, January 26, 2003 to make plans for the coming year. Programs and projects were discussed. I think you'll enjoy the speakers we've suggested for our remaining programs in 2003. We need to complete our project of buying the 1930 North Carolina Federal Census for the Brunswick Community College Library. Recommendations will be presented at the meeting. Remember you can still make donations toward the project. A roll of microfilm costs \$34.

This is the year we elect new officers. Begin to think about how you can serve the Society. We need officers, a NEWSLETTER editor, a publicity chairman and a refreshment committee. You can help this year by volunteering to contact the local media outlets or to help provide refreshments for one of our meetings.

THE BRUNSWICK GAZETTE, A Newsletter from the Historic Site Visitors Center at Brunswick Town, is a new publication. The six-page newsletter is filled with news of the happenings at Brunswick Town and includes articles about the early history of Brunswick County, NC. They are offering a yearly subscription for \$10. This includes 4 issues. It's very impressive and the editors, Blonnie Bunn Wyche and Millie Hart, are creative and talented writers. A subscription form can be found on the back page in case you want to subscribe.

The World War II Wilmington Home Front Heritage Coalition is publishing "WWII SENC Heritage Trail Brochure." The brochure will include a map as well as text for World War II sites in Southeastern North Carolina. Sites in Brunswick County are Fort Caswell, the SS John D. Gill Memorial and the North Carolina Maritime Museum. The Coalition is requesting contributions toward the publication cost. Contributions can be sent to: WWII Wilmington Home Front Heritage Coalition, PO Box 425, Wilmington, NC 28402. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Wilbur D. Jones, Jr. at 910-793-6393 or e-mail JonesWD@aol.com.

Two web sites you may wish you use: North Carolina ECHO, *Exploring Cultural Heritage Online*, is the web's doorway to the special collections of North Carolina's libraries, archives, and museums... [www.ncecho.org](http://www.ncecho.org) (courtesy of THE WHITTAKER'S BENCH—newsletter of the Southport Historical Society) and OPERATION DEAR ABBY, used to send a Sailor, Marine, Soldier, Airman or Coast Guardsman a seasonal greeting or message of support... <http://anyservicemember.navy.mil> (courtesy of Cape Fear Chapter #3, United Daughters of the Confederacy.)

The National Park Service and the Moore's Creek Battleground Association will be observing the 227<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge on February 22-23, 2003. A Genealogy Symposium will be featured in Patriots Hall from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday. Several groups will offer items for sale as well as assisting interested visitors in researching ancestors. Reenactors in period costume will be on the grounds with displays and interpretive programs. The 88 acre park commemorates the decisive February 27, 1776 victory by 1,000 Patriots over 1,600 Loyalists. The battle ended Royal Governor Josiah Martin's hopes of regaining control of the colony for the British crown. In addition, this first decisive Patriot victory of the Revolutionary War raised morale for Patriots throughout the colonies. The Loyalist defeat ended British plans for an invasionary force to land in Brunswick, North Carolina. The colony of North Carolina voted to declare independence from the British on April 12, 1776, shortly after the victory at Moores Creek.

The Old New Hanover Genealogical Society will meet March 11, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the large meeting room of the Northeast Regional Library, 1241 Military Cutoff Road, Wilmington, NC. The program, "Toponymy: How Place Names Can Help You Find Your Ancestors," will be presented by Dennis Jones, a retired educator, geographer, and Onslow County genealogist and local historian. He will lecture on the field of science where geography meets with onomastics, or the study of names. The April 8, 2003 meeting at the same place and time will be "How to Turn Research into a Biographical Sketch of Your Ancestor." Speakers Carolyn Rawls Booth and Beverly Tetterton will provide resources that will bring your ancestors to life.

The NEWSLETTER editor is always in need of articles for publication. Take the time to write down some stories of your childhood or war experiences or your family history or genealogy. Everyone has a story worth telling.

It's that time of year again...Dues are payable!!! Many of you have already paid your 2003 dues and one has paid for 2004. Check the list for your name. If your name isn't there you need to pay your dues. Look for the form on the back page.

#### MEMBERSHIP LIST---2003

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|---|----------------------|
| 1. Johnsie Holden, Life Member          | 20. Charles Harper   |
| 2. Judy Holden, Life Member             | 21. Larry Maisel     |
| 3. Sheldon & Janice Pigott, Life Member | 22. Lillian Batson   |
| 4. Tammi Cooke, Life Member             | 23. Don Jenrette     |
| 5. Mary Mintz, Life Member              | 24. Larry Bailey     |
| 6. Sherry Cornwell, Life Member         | 25. James Harrington |
| 7. Brunswicktown State Historic Site    | 26. Helen Taylor     |
| 8. Brunswick Community College          | 27. Edwin Taylor     |
| 9. New Hanover County Library           | 28. Ernestine Mercer |
| 10. NC Collection, UNC                  | 29. Mildred Mercer   |
| 11. Columbus County Library             | 30. Jan K. Dale      |
| 12. Ft. Wayne Public Library            | 31. Rudolph Royal    |
| 13. Anne Neroni                         | 32. Henry Williams   |
| 14. Floyd Phelps                        | 33. Jim Marlowe      |
| 15. Warren Phelps                       | 34. Eloise Gibson    |
| 16. Ouida Hewett                        | 35. Rose Hadnot      |
| 17. Roberta Brady                       | 36. Connie Schutte   |
| 18. Sonja McCutcheon                    | 37. Hubert Inman     |
| 19. Carl E. Swain and 2004              |                      |

### **SOCIETY OFFICERS 2000-2003**

**President: Henry C. Williams**  
**Vice-President: Bertha Grohman**  
**Secretary: Helen Taylor**  
**Treasurer: Gwen Causey**  
**Directors: Lucille Blake, Johnsie Holden**  
**Newsletter: Gwen Causey**

## RECRUITS NEEDED FOR THE ARTILLERY

The American Civil War took place from 1861 to 1865. Reenacting that period of time is one of the fastest growing hobbies today because it is educational and fun for the entire family. From camping and crafts to military history, music and photography, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy.

Adam's Battery will be at Fort Anderson on February 15-16, 2003 for the Living History Anniversary Event. We will return in April for the "Artillery School of the Piece." We invite the public to attend both events and hope that you will consider joining up with us.

Anyone who is interested in joining us, receiving more information about reenactments, or who might want to invite us to their event may contact Richard Long at 253-6973, [Fireboss35@hotmail.com](mailto:Fireboss35@hotmail.com) or through the Brunswick Town State Historic Site at 371-6613.

.....THE BRUNSWICK GAZETTE

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## LIVING HISTORY ENCAMPMENT

Saturday, February 15 and Sunday, February 16, 2003, the annual Civil War Living History Encampment will be held at Fort Anderson. The guest speaker is Dr. Chris Fonvielle. He will present his Fort Anderson slide show and tour on both days, starting around 1:00 or 1:30 P. M.

On the same two days, many outdoor activities will take place from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. These activities include John Golden, portraying a blockade running river boat pilot. At least three large artillery pieces are on display. They will be fired on the hour and half hour. Small arms drilling and firing, torpedo warfare presentations, and general camp life of the Confederates will be demonstrated.

For more information on the encampment, contact Brenda Marshburn at 371-6613.

...THE BRUNSWICK GAZETTE

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## BRUNSWICK TOWN EXHIBIT PROJECT UNDERWAY

After many years of planning and designing, the interior exhibits within the Visitor's Center are underway. On November 20, 2002 the bid opening for these exhibits took place with Plantation Builders, Inc. being the selected contractor. It is believed the project can be completed and a dedication planned by late spring or early summer.

...THE BRUNSWICK GAZETTE

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TENDING THE STILL, a traveling exhibit from the NC Museum of History, recounts a time when Tar Heels engaged in the making of moonshine, will be on view through Feb. 23 at the Museum of the Cape Fear in Fayetteville, NC.

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
P.O.Box 874, SHALLOTTE, NC 28459

**ORGANIZATION**

The Society was organized in 1954 as a non-profit organization and currently has a membership of 75. You are invited to attend our meetings which are informative and which provide the opportunity to hear knowledgeable speakers on a wide variety of topics relating to Brunswick County. The meetings also provide the opportunity to meet people with similar interests.

**PURPOSES**

To collect, preserve, study, evaluate and publicize the history of Brunswick County, NC.  
To devote meetings to presentation of materials about Brunswick County and the Lower Cape Fear through lectures, slides, and discussion.  
To publish a newsletter which contains news of the Society's activities, research papers and articles that pertain to genealogy.

**MEETING**

Meetings are held four times a year at the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation building on Hwy. 17 in Supply, NC on the second Monday of February, May, August and November. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m.

**MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Membership in the Society is open to all persons who are interested in the purposes of the Society and who are willing to aid and assist in promoting and encouraging the same. Regular dues are \$10.00 a year and a life membership is \$100.00. Memberships are on a calendar year basis.

**PUBLICATION**

The Society's publication is the NEWSLETTER with four issues a year. It is mailed 2 weeks prior to a meeting. Queries are free to members. The Editor solicits articles that pertain to Brunswick County families or Brunswick County history.

**SUPPORT**

The Society supports the Local History/Genealogical section of the Brunswick Community College Library. Research materials include books on local history, genealogy aids and the complete set of NC census records on microfilm.

## ANOTHER CHAPTER IN HOLDEN BEACH HISTORY

By: Marjorie Megivern

Supplement to the Brunswick Beacon, July-August, 1997

At 69, Hinton Fulford doesn't hear as well as he used to, but he can still maneuver a tractor over his farm in Seatrace. He still has a twinkle in his eyes, too, and sharp memories of his boyhood, living on the fringe of Holden Beach. There are chapters of its history that he says have never been written.

"I grew up right here and saw that beach develop. I was born on Old Ferry Road and I was four years old when the Intracoastal Waterway was dug."

Fulford's great-grandfather came to this area from England in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and three of his four sons remained, inheriting property stretching from Stanbury Swamp to the ocean. "The property was divided, so my grandfather, John Fulford got the piece that went to the ocean," he said, "and in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, he sold 700 acres of it to a Mr. Hawkins."

It was in 1885 that the first fishery was established on the beach, Fulford said, the No. 5 Fishery, the forerunner of dozens of such businesses.

On the mainland, farming became big business, Hinton's father Newman, who had inherited John Fulford's property, put much of it to work growing beans, melons, soybeans, corn, sweet potatoes and peanuts.

"We did some fishing, too," Hinton said, "and we kept hogs and cows." We always had enough to eat, but not enough to wear. We had to go in the horse and buggy to Supply to trade salt pork and sweet potatoes for rice and coffee and sugar and flour.

Newman Fulford also relied on his inherited property when cash was scarce. "He would sell a lot and live on the money a while," his son recalled. "A lot 100 feet by 100 feet would go for about \$300."

Meanwhile, the Intracoastal Waterway was completed by the Corps of Engineers in 1932. Fulford said it destroyed the crossing to the beach, called Cedar Landing, owned by his father, where people could cross at low tide. "Then there was no way to get the fish off the island, so the fisheries moved to the mainland," he said.

Fulford explained the name of the Tri-Beach Fire Department, located on the mainland. "There were three beaches in the 1930s and '40s," he said, "Robinson's, owned by Peter Robinson, Holden's, owned by the Holden family, and Bellamy's, owned by Hubert Bellamy."

World War II made a particular impact on Holden Beach. "The Navy had control of the island," Fulford said, "and people were only allowed to use the beach during the daytime. They had horses patrolling the beach and at night no one was allowed to have any lights shining toward the ocean. They put prisoners to work all up and down the coast, too, fishing in little fenced-in areas, and some of them worked on farms around here to grow food for the servicemen."

Fulford left home to serve in the Army in 1947, after which he began working as captain of a dredge boat, traveling up and down the coast. He kept in touch with his Brunswick County family, however, and developments on Holden Beach. "In the 1950s, there was a need for a bridge to the island. The state approached my father and he gave them land for a right-of-way to Robinson's property. He also gave dirt to build the causeway. Then Robinson gave the land from their variety store to the ocean and the swing bridge was put in in 1954. The state in return built my father a pond for fishing behind his house. The only mention anywhere of Newman Fulford's part in building the bridge is the street named for him, Newman's Drive, in front of our business, Fulford Air Conditioning."

During the years spent on dredge boats, in Virginia and Florida and elsewhere, Hinton met Betty, a Maryland girl, who became his wife in 1953. They built a cottage in Brunswick County and visited there

often before moving back for good. "I was working the boat in Florida, when I decided to quit," Fulford explained. "I was tired of traveling and was losing my hearing, so we moved to the cottage and in 1972 bought an air conditioning business on the Holden Beach causeway."

They are now the third generation of Fulfords to farm the property John Fulford bought nearly 300 years ago. They've raised two daughters and two sons, one of which runs the business. A grandson rides the tractor with Fulford now, a likely successor to the farm. He's the fourth generation of a family who played its own part in developing one of the most exciting tourist attractions on the eastern seaboard.

#### LEASE AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN J. H. HOLDEN ET UX AND STATE HIGHWAY AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

This agreement, made and entered into this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1937, by and between J. H. Holden and wife, Eva, of the county of Brunswick, State of North Carolina...

That whereas, the said J. H. Holden and wife, Eva Holden, are the owners of certain lands and fishing privileges at and in the vicinity of Holden's Beach in Brunswick County,...

Whereas the State Highway and Public Works Commission desires to engage in catching edible fish in the inland waters on the land of the said J. H. Holden and also along the beach and in the waters of the ocean adjacent thereto fronting the property ...

...the said J. H. Holden and wife, Eva Holden, have bargained and sold to the said State Highway and Public Works Commission all of their fishing equipment used in commercial fishing, consisting of two boats, two seines, and all other equipment...that may be reasonably necessary or useful to the said State Highway and Public Works Commission in carrying out its plan to engage in fishing operations along the coast adjacent to the lands...or within the waters of the Inland Waterway...together with the use of the buildings upon the beach heretofore used by the said J. H. Holden in connection with his fishing operations; and the further right to construct and maintain a small warehouse at some suitable location...on the mainland side of the Inland Waterway Canal; and the further right and privilege ...to construct and maintain during the time of the lease a camp site for prisoners and any other building necessary to its operation upon the beach lands...

...the said J. H. Holden and wife, Eva Holden, reserve the right to engage in fishing within the said waters to such an extent as will not at any time interfere with the operations of the State Highway and Public Works Commission...

The period of this lease shall be for the year 1937, but it is expressly understood and agreed that the State highway and Public Works Commission may renew the said lease from year to year for a period of four years...

Book 66 Pages 356-357  
Register of Deeds Office  
Brunswick County Courthouse  
Bolivia, NC

## MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD

Lots of times as I sit back and just relax, my mind travels in the yesteryear. Many things come to mind as I sift through my childhood. Everything is important, I cannot put one before the other.

One of my standout favorite memories happened back in the middle twenties. My sister and I would get up real early, even before day and go with our daddy to several dipping vats around the Bolivia area, to dip cows for ticks. A long ditch-like vat was dug and an enclosure was built around the sides to keep the water in. We did not live on a farm, so I knew very little about cows. It was amazing to see the cows stand in line waiting their turn. Each cow was held by a rope around their neck. As they were ready to be dipped, the rope was slipped off, and each cow was marked as they swam through the treated water. The rope was replaced around their neck as they came through to the other side. They were carried home and returned next week for another dip.

To make the morning complete, mother always packed a snack for us. Now the fried egg sandwich, a cookie of some kind, and the coca cola orange crush in the brown bottle (we do not have this orange crush today) was most delicious. I know your mouth is watering by now, and if you do not taste that delicious treat - your imagination does not run wild like mine.

Another memory that stands out is of my parent's general store in Bolivia. The groceries came by truck from J. W. Brooks Wholesale, Wilmington. The dry goods such as overalls, shirts, socks, shoes, needles, thread, cloth, scissors, so forth and so on, were bought from S. B. Solomon & Co., Wilmington. When they needed any of these items, they always went over to purchase them. We crossed the Cape Fear River on the ferry "John Knox". The landing was down below where the Battleship North Carolina is today. I was literally scared beyond reason. I always wanted to get out of the car and watch the water ripple for five minutes - then back to the car in a hurry. The most favorite time of this trip was coming home. Daddy would always go to the cafe on Water Street and get a plate of fried fish (flounder and spots). They wrapped them real good so they stayed warm. We would go by the Merita Bakery and buy fresh bread. Of course drinks were in the car - they dared not leave home without water and drinks for these two little girls. We always came back to Bell Swamp, just beyond the NC Highway 87 and NC Highway 17 intersection in front of where Town Creek Christian Church is now located. Under a big beautiful oak tree, (not there now) mother would spread the lunch. She always brought a table



cloth and a wash cloth for our fingers. Now, you would need to be there to understand what I mean when I say there has never been any fish and bread any more delicious than these. The scenery was beautiful and the food out of this world. No traffic except now and then - mostly then. A truly wonderful outing. We always hated to leave. Inez and I relived these trips many times in our yard at home under a shade tree.

How do we speak of years gone by? The "Good Ole Days" - and they truly were.

As I finished writing this down, I thought of the middle twenties - Gosh! This is the middle nineties, where have the years gone?

Lottie Ludlum

Editor's Note: Lottie Lay Ludlum is the daughter of Wallace and Daisy Wilson. She married Percy Herman Russ on January 13, 1940. To this union was born Phoebe Diane who married Douglas H. Hawes; Phillip Wallace who married Brenda Hewett; Jerry Lane who married Judy Golden; and Judi Temperance who married Jimmy C. Clemmons. Percy Herman died August 8, 1959. Lottie married Anson Ludlum on November 10, 1961.

In 1988 Lottie compiled Our Family Cookbook which contains some of her family's recipes. Scattered among the pages are some quotes by her:

"Do not pick beans when the bushes are wet, as this often causes blight and rust."

"A sharp knife will slice halfway through a ripe tomato with one stroke."

One section contains kitchen hints copied from her mother's Home Comfort Cookbook. Some quotes in this section include:

"Do not use newspapers to wrap about anything eatable."

"It is always best to handle oysters with a fork as contact with the hands make them tough."

"A strong unsweetened lemonade, taken before breakfast, will prevent and cure a sick headache."

## Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex

The museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex, a regional section of the North Carolina Museum of History Division, is located in Fayetteville, NC. It collects, preserves and interprets the cultural history of southern North Carolina. It publishes a newsletter, *The Longleaf*, four times per year. In the Fall, 2001 edition was the following article.

### THINGS CHANGE

By: Kathryn A. Beach, Historian

It's time for a change in the galleries. In the coming year, the staff will renovate the permanent exhibits *Early Exploration and Settlement* and *The Revolutionary War*. Primary sources—period items such as letters, diaries, newspapers, contracts, and official records—will be added to the exhibit on early exploration and settlement. Visitors will learn about conditions and problems faced by eighteenth-century settlers coming to North Carolina from their homelands, from South Carolina and Virginia, and from Pennsylvania via the Great Wagon Road. The exhibit will highlight the experiences of four groups in the Cape Fear region: African Americans, English, Highland Scots, and Scotch-Irish.

The Revolutionary War was also a civil war in North Carolina and the other colonies. Local issues and personal concerns often had a greater impact than the colonies' struggle with the king on an individual's decision to become a Tory or a Patriot. The exhibit will examine issues such as quarrels with patriot leaders, loyalty oaths and tax exemptions, and raiding.

Interactive components in the galleries will enable visitors to find the locations (latitude and longitude) of immigrants' homelands and the Cape Fear region and to hear what people thought about issues during the Revolution.

The staff hopes additions to the two permanent exhibits will provide a more integrated approach to these periods. When you come to the museum during the upcoming year, please "pardon our dust" as improvements in the galleries take shape.

### HUMAN HAIR JEWELRY

For hundreds of years, long hair was considered a woman's glory. In addition to making fashion statements, People used hair to make mementos.

During the Victorian era, Americans used human hair in making jewelry. Hair-and-gold necklaces, bracelets, and pins are often seen on exhibit in Antebellum Galleries. Bracelets were sometimes connected to a gold locket, which would hold a woman's image. Necklaces featured gold heart pendants.

Victorian women saved their hair and placed it in hair receivers. Often made of porcelain, hair receivers were popular women's toiletry items. Women often spent their leisure time making decorative items for the home. These objects, as well as highlighting their talents, illustrated their love of family. Hair wreaths expressed just such devotion. Women collected hair from family members and wove the strands into designs. Floral hair wreaths, housed in picture frames, adorned the walls of many Victorian homes.

In the nineteenth century, hair from deceased loved ones was commonly placed in mourning jewelry. Often an exhibit will contain a memorial portrait inside a gold pendant. A braided snippet of the beloved's hair is encased in the pendant's back.

The next time you view or examine such artifacts appreciate the skill with which they were made and think about the meaning they held for their creators.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR 2003

_____	Individual ( 1 membership, 4 NEWSLETTERS )	\$10.00
_____	Life Member ( 1 membership for life )	\$100.00
_____	Donation ( 1 roll of 1930 Census microfilm )	\$34.00

Name & mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return this form with payment to: Brunswick County Historical Society  
PO Box 874  
Shallotte, NC 28459

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We want to hear from you. Send correspondence and subscriptions to:

Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson  
8884 St. Philips Road SE  
Winnabow, NC 28479

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