



# NEWSLETTER

BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PO BOX 874, SHALLOTTE, NC 28459

VOLUME XLVIII

NOVEMBER, 2008

NUMBER 4

Organized June 21, 1956

## NOVEMBER MEETING TO BE HELD AT BEMC IN SUPPLY, NC NOVEMBER 10, 2008 7:30 P. M.

The next meeting of the Brunswick County Historical Society will be held on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation Building, 795 Ocean Highway West, Supply, NC. The meeting begins at 7:30P. M. Refreshments will be served prior to the meeting. **We always meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in February, May, August and November.**

The speaker will be **Brenda J. Moore**. She will provide history on the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe of Bolton, NC. As part of her program she will give information on other tribes in North Carolina, display historical musical instruments and clothing, and will provide a display of pictures and an explanation of their dance regalia.

Mrs. Moore is a member of the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe and resides in the Buckhead community of the Tribal Area. She is employed with the Tribe as Housing Coordinator.

**BCHS Website.....**Have you visited our website??? Go to [www.bchs1764.org](http://www.bchs1764.org) and check it out!!

**BCHS Bylaws...**the proposed bylaws were presented at the August, 2008 meeting. They will be presented by the Bylaws Committee for a vote of approval by the membership at the November meeting.

**The Scholarship Committee** would like to thank everyone that is helping to make the scholarship program happen. We appreciate your support and generosity, whether by selling tickets or by donations.

A special thanks to James Green for his donation of the Bryan Varnam print of "Oak Island Lighthouse." This print is a limited edition and will be a true keepsake.

Another special thanks to Calabash Gallery for their donation of the frame and matting for the print.

This picture will be raffled off at the November, 2008 meeting. If you've not bought your tickets contact Tammy Sellers at BEMC or any member of the committee.

**Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site...**Included in this Newsletter is page 1 of **THE BRUNSWICK BELLE**, the official newsletter for the site. (The first edition contains 6 pages of articles and pictures.) This will be a quarterly newsletter produced and edited by site staff. To save money on postage and handling it will be submitted primarily by email. Those who do not have email may contact the site to receive a complimentary issue by mail, and continue to receive the newsletter by mail for an annual subscription fee of \$10.00. You can receive the **BELLE** by email for free!! Contact Megan Phillips at 910-371-6613 or by email at [Megan.Phillips@ncmail.net](mailto:Megan.Phillips@ncmail.net)

**Cemetery Conservation Workshop...**In this issue you will find information about a workshop being held in Brunswick County on November 7<sup>th</sup> and in New Hanover County on November 8<sup>th</sup>. This is a good way for us to become visible in the community. Make plans to attend one of these valuable workshops.

**In Memory of our Past President, Dr. Joseph B. Carter...**Dr. Carter died on August 7, 2008. His obituary is printed in this Newsletter.

**Remembering Susie Carson...**one of our longtime members has passed from our midst. On September 1, 2008 Susie died after living with cancer for many months. A farewell message is reprinted within this Newsletter.

**National Genealogical Society Conference In The States 2009** will be held in Raleigh, NC May 13-16, 2009. This conference rotates among the states and this is the closest it has been for years. This is your opportunity to meet and mingle with representatives from area genealogical societies and historical special interest groups. Several tours are planned as well as workshops centered around the theme of the conference: "The Building of a Nation: From Roanoke to the West." For more information call 1-800-473-0060 or visit [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org)

**The Treasurer reports** a bank balance of \$2,145.51. This bank balance is as of October 30, 2008. Total membership stands at 66. This includes 25 Life Members. Newsletters are sent to 5 libraries, 1 historical society and 1 state historic site. For \$150 one can become a life member and never have to worry about dues again. Today, this is truly a bargain. Talk with your friends and invite them to the next meeting. Don't assume they know about the society. We are receiving good publicity about the meeting since notices are placed in area newspapers.

**The Scholarship Bank Account** has a balance of \$70. This would be a nice way to honor a friend or remember someone who died. Contributions are being accepted.

#### **Society Officers 2007-2009**

President: Glenn Kye  
Vice- President: James Green  
Secretary: Annette Phelps  
Treasurer: Gwen Causey  
Directors: Sheldon Pigott, Tammy Sellers, Dave Lewis  
Newsletter Editor: Gwen Causey

**MISSION STATEMENT:** 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.



# The Brunswick Belle

The Official Newsletter for Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson  
State Historic Site

8884 St. Philips Rd. SE Winnabow, NC 28479 (910) 371-6613

Editor: Megan Phillips

Contributors: Brenda Bryant and Jim McKee

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Site Manager	2
Archaeology and the ADA Trail	2
Ft. Anderson Living History Event	3
Calling All Friends!	3
Gun Emplacement News	4
Site Photographs	5
Upcoming Events	6

## HERITAGE DAYS WRAP UP

Heritage Days has been an annual event for Brunswick County students since the early 1980's. This year it was held October 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 7th. Over 900 4th graders attended to experience what life was like in the colonial port town of Brunswick. A variety of demonstrations and hands on activities were offered by the costumed interpreters.

Volunteer Ellen Dorsett and her army of assistants showed the students how the colonists made candles and each child was thrilled to take their turn at dipping. Tim Boyd, of Moore's Creek National Battlefield, demonstrated the trade of blacksmithing, and Marvin Johnson discussed the art of woodworking. Fort Fisher staff member Becky Sawyer shared her expertise on colonial lifestyles. Amy Thornton and Jessica Sutton, also of Ft. Fisher, assisted with lifestyles and stenciling. Barbara Johansen and Tom Hudgin demonstrated spinning and weaving wool with the assistance of two sheep from Horsetails Farm in Wilmington. Colonial crime and punishment expert, Jack Fryer, scared the stu-

dents stiff at the stocks and pillory. Sandy Kennedy had fun with the kids at colonial toys and games, and Megan Phillips demonstrated the art of stenciling.

Jim McKee was by far the crowd favorite as he played time keeper with the Brown Bess. The groups of students spent 15 minutes at each station, and Jim fired the Bess to signal that it was time to move on to the next location. The children loved to shout "fire in the hole" in anticipation of the black powder boom!

The staff would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to make Heritage Days such a memorable experience for the students. We look forward to doing it all again next year!



## MEET THE NEW STAFF

There have been many changes at Brunswick Town/Ft. Anderson in the past year. Jimmy Bartley has moved on to become the East Region Manager of Historic Sites. Brenda Bryant, a 24 year veteran of the site, was promoted to site manager in June 2007. In May 2008, Jim McKee joined the full time staff as Historic Interpreter III. Jim previously worked at the Southport Maritime Museum, and has been a long time re-enactor and volunteer at Brunswick Town/Ft. Anderson. His expertise in Civil War, maritime, and colonial history, as well as re-enacting, make him an invaluable asset as a programmer

and media specialist. Also in May 2008, Megan Phillips was hired as Historic Interpreter II. Megan graduated with an MA in Public History from N.C. State University and previously worked at Yates Mill County Park in Raleigh, and Duke Homestead State Historic Site in Durham. Megan has been

charged with revamping the gift shop, colonial programming, and office management duties. In addition to the new full time staff, Marvin Johnson was hired as a temporary staff member. An all around handyman and long time volunteer, Marvin is a great addition to the site.



Cemetery Survey and Stewardship Program  
4916 Mail Service Center  
109 East Jones Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601  
(919)807.6563  
(919)807.7479

**"PRESS RELEASE"**

For Release: Embargo Until (date)

Contacts: R. Kevin Donald, PhD  
(919)807.6563

## **Local Historical Societies and State Agencies Partner to Sponsor a Cemetery Conservation Workshop**

By

R. Kevin Donald

When historic cemeteries are overgrown or damaged it can be hard to know where to begin. The Southport Historical Society, the Historic Wilmington Foundation, the Friends of Oakdale Cemetery, North Carolina Historic Sites, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, and the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology's Cemetery Survey and Stewardship Program are sponsoring two workshops that will address cemetery conservation and maintenance. Join in, for either or both days, for a fast-paced workshop designed to educate and explore acceptable methods to restore and conserve our historic cemeteries.

Well-intentioned people are often fooled by the seemingly strong materials from which cemetery markers, monuments and structures are made. Marble, granite, concrete and other materials are quite sensitive and should be treated with great care. The focus of the workshops is to provide attendees with a solid background of current cemetery conservation strategies and techniques that are designed to reduce inadvertent damage to cemetery markers, monuments and structures. This workshop promises to be an invaluable resource for those community members interested in learning the latest and best practices for cemetery conservation and preservation.

Day 1 of the workshop, which will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup> and be limited to twenty registrants, will be spent at Brunswick Town Cemetery, which is half-way between Wilmington and Southport, and the Old Smithfield Burying Ground in Southport. Participants will take an active role in cleaning, resetting, and restoring gravestones at these historic locations. Day 2 of the workshop, which will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> and be limited to thirty registrants, will be spent at Oakdale Cemetery in Wilmington. This workshop will address the conservation issues demonstrated in the first workshop; however, the focus will include demonstrations instead of "hands-on" experience for attendees.

The fee for the workshop is \$20.00 for Day 1 and \$30.00 for Day 2. Lunch is included with registration for both days. Registration is required to attend the workshop. To register for Day 1 please mail checks to Gravestone and Cemetery Conservation Workshop, c/o Southport Historical Society, P. O. Box 10014, Southport, NC 28461. To register for Day 2, please mail checks to Gravestone and Cemetery Conservation Workshop, c/o Historic Wilmington Foundation, 516 North Fourth Street, Wilmington,, NC 28401. Inquiries can be made to: Kevin Donald, Cemetery Survey and Stewardship Program, (919) 807-6563; Jeff Adolphsen, State Historic Preservation Office, (919) 807-6572; Jim McKee, North Carolina Historic Sites, (910) 371-6613; or George Edwards, Historic Wilmington Foundation, (910) 762-2511. The pre-registration deadline is Oct 31st. The fee for late registration is \$30.00 for Day 1, \$40.00 for Day 2.

# Southport Historical Society

Fall 2008

*From the President's Pen . . .*

## A Sad Farewell to "Miss Susie"

The society is deeply saddened by the death of our dear "Miss Susie" Carson. After many months of valiantly living with cancer, Susie peacefully passed away on Labor Day morning, September 1. We have reprinted her obituary in this issue of *The Whittler's Bench* along with other tributes. Following is the eulogy I was privileged to present on behalf of the society and my personal relationship with Susie. The society provided two identical baskets of flowers for either side of Susie's casket - they were beautiful, I'm sure she loved them!



Susie Carson - September 2006

"As most of us remember, Susie Carson was good at giving instructions. If it had been possible for her to instruct me this morning she would have said, 'Now Pat, you be sure to honor God before you honor me.' And so, Glory to God who so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. Susie believed, Susie has not perished, but has now gone onto her everlasting life.

I hope Joshua Potts made it to heaven when he died back the 1800's, because there's a sweet lady who just got there who wants to meet him. Joshua had a dream to start a town at the mouth of the Cape Fear where salubrious breezes blow. His dream came true and here we are over 200 years later talking about him because Susie kept his memory alive.

I recently read this statement: 'History teaches that one person can make a difference.' Alexander the Great? Constantine? Martin Luther? George Washington? Joshua Potts? Susie Carson? Yes, Susie certainly made a difference here. Not many places are blessed to have a dedicated living history book among them, we were! Because of her efforts we have our history written down in her first book *Joshua's Dream*. Most of us have not only read the book, we've had the history of this place impressed upon our minds if we were students in Susie's classes. How many of you ever sat in one of her history classes?

I first met Susie right here in this sanctuary twelve years ago as a newcomer to Southport. I noticed her because she reminded me so much of my grandmother and when I introduced myself to her she immediately said I needed to come to her class which started the next week, so I did and here I am now. Five years later she let me quit going to classes!

She was my mentor, I was hooked on Southport history and now I too have that same love for this place. Neither Susie nor I were born here, but it became our hearts' hometown. Because of her influence and insistence that we newcomers all attend history classes, many of us became involved in helping her to write her second book, *Joshua's Legacy*.

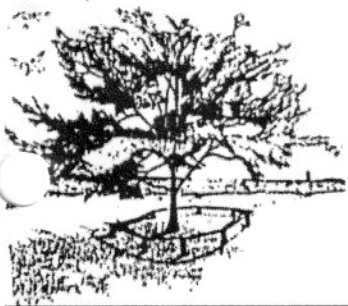
Susie too has a Southport legacy - the foremost being the Southport Historical Society. As co-founder with Eleanor Smith, she and 41 other folks started the society in January, 1976. How many of you were in that first group? Thirty-two years later there are now almost 400 members. How many of you are counted in that number? We have membership applications for the rest of you! Is this not a wonderful legacy?

Even just days ago, Susie was still asking me to tell her what was going on in the society. She never lost her interest in it. It was her pride and joy. She was the "wind beneath the wings" of the society. She will be so missed, but never forgotten.

(continued next page)

The Whittler's Bench

"Bringing Our Past Into The Present"



(Continued from page 1)

**IE WHITTLER'S BENCH**

is a quarterly publication of the Southport Historical Society a 501 3-c non-profit organization  
P. O. Box 10014  
Southport, NC 28461  
E-mail: shs@ec.rr.com  
Website: southporthistoricalsociety.com  
Telephone contact: 910-457-0579 or 910-454-0437

**OFFICERS:**

President: Pat Kirkman  
Vice President: Musette Steck  
Secretary: Charles Christianson  
Treasurer: Phil Fravel  
Archivist: Larry Maisel

**DIRECTORS:**

Cathy Fravel  
Karen Knighton  
Tom Izod

Susie's accomplishments in life not only related to history, but to her church and community as well. They are myriad, her followers are numerous, her influence widespread.

Yes, one person did make a difference in the history of this little town on the Cape Fear where her name is engraved right alongside those of Joshua Potts and Benjamin Smith on a waterfront memorial stone. Kathryn, we are so grateful to have shared your mother with you. She was our dear "Mama Susie", our special "Miss Susie" and we loved her third book, *Lelia Jane*, the story of your family.

But Susie would have me to remind you that her most important identity was "Child of God", "Born Again Believer". As sisters in Christ, we shared some very special bedside moments in these last weeks as we prayed, read scripture and sang old hymns together. Her faith was strong though her body was weak. My mentor also taught me how a Christian endures the end of life on earth with the hope of eternal life with God.

I am sure when the call rang out in heaven early Monday morning that Susie Carson was on her way that there was a great rush of family, friends and former students who ran to the gates to help Jesus welcome her in. Thank you Susie, for all you gave us - we love you. And Susie, would you take a little time to rest and breathe in some of those salubrious heavenly breezes before you start a Southport history class!"

*Pat Kirkman*

**Note:** If you would like to send a note to Susie's daughter, **Kathryn Kalmanson (Mrs. Arnold)**, her address is 6005 Charles Cannon Road, Marion Station, MD 21838.

# SOUTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## *New Membership and Renewal Invitation*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form with your check to: P. O. Box 10014, Southport, NC 28461**

Individual \$10 Couple \$15 Student \$2 Business/Organization \$15 Sustaining \$25  
Life Memberships: Individual \$150 - Couple/Business \$200

*Thank you for your support!*

## **SERENITY AND SOLITUDE ON TOWN CREEK**

**The State Port Pilot, Southport, NC  
Wednesday, January 2, 2008**

**Written by:  
Bret McCormick, Sports Editor**

In July of 2006, Brunswick County was awarded two land grants totaling \$517,280 to build canoe/kayak launch ramps for two sites—one on Town Creek off N.C. 133 near Belville, and the other off U.S. 17, farther west on Town Creek near Winnabow. The projects are part of a larger plan called the "Brunswick County Greenway/Blueway Master Plan."

Most people are familiar with the concept of a greenway, a gravel recreational corridor generally utilized by walkers, runners and bikers. Due to Brunswick County's propinquity to the ocean plus the Cape Fear River and Waccamaw River watersheds that flow through its borders, county officials wanted to construct a blueway, similar to a greenway except it would be water-based.

The site off N.C. 133 is called Brunswick Nature Park, and it encompasses not only a boat ramp but also an environmental education center and horseback-riding trails, all laid out across 199 acres of mixed wetlands and bottomlands.

The other site, Whitlock Landing Access Site, located near U.S. 17 in Winnabow, is only six acres, but there will be a canoe/kayak ramp situated on Town Creek in an area where the creek is mostly blackwater swamp, which should make for spectacular viewing. Town Creek will link Whitlock Landing with the larger Brunswick Nature Park to the east.

Both projects are ready to begin construction though they are mired in the limbo of waiting for permit approval. Both parks' entrances will require a turning lane off the highway, which requires a N.C. Department of Transportation permit, and both sites will also need Coastal Area Management Act permits to construct the proposed kayak/canoe ramps.

It could be a while before any of the needed permits are actually approved.

"We're on the other side of it now, from a planning standpoint," said Brunswick County land planner Kirstie Dixon. "All the permits are on the appropriate agencies' desks."

Planning for the project took into consideration that the land surrounding Town Creek between N.C. 133 and U.S. 17 is one of the last undeveloped tracts in the area between those two well-traveled thoroughfares. Brent Bishop, a member of the park's design committee and a Brunswick County native who camped and paddled on the creek as a child, said that maintaining the creek's view-shed was something that the designers kept in mind.

"Even well-done development that encroaches right on the creek destroys that sense of solitude and wilderness that you have out there on Town Creek," said Bishop.

Visual obstructions, noise pollution and vehicular traffic will all be funneled away from the actual blueway, preserving the illusion of virgin wetlands.

"It's going to provide people with a real sense of retreat, solitude and peacefulness," said Bishop.

To accommodate the green desires, there will be dollies for transporting kayaks from the parking area to the water and handicapped parking spots near the water. The environmental education center will be located away from the creek with parking there also, all in an effort to shoo traffic away from the natural setting that surrounds the creek.

"That was our main goal, trying to keep that corridor along the creek as pristine as possible," said Bishop, "for the experience of the person either hiking along it, or paddling through it."

While greenways have to be constructed with gravel or boardwalks, blueways are already in place.

"The only thing that we could do with the blueways is mess them up," said Bishop. They're already there; they just need protection from development."

To check out a portion of the proposed Brunswick Nature Park near N.C. 133, several *State Port Pilot* employees gathered on an unseasonably warm Saturday in early December to go kayaking on Town Creek. Luckily, we timed the trip well enough that we were able to paddle upstream with the current, stop and eat lunch at an abandoned dock below a now-derelict hunting camp, and then ride the retreating water back out. The ebb tide ensured as little effort on our parts as necessary, and more time to coast, look and listen.

It was difficult while paddling up the creek not to think about the many predecessors who traversed this route many years before. Vague, worn reminders of their presence were evident, mainly remnants of the rice plantations that were abundant in the tidal region of North Carolina and South Carolina.

One member of our party tried unsuccessfully to navigate one of the rice sluices, which were canals employed by the plantations to regulate the amount of water that entered the rice fields. In the sluice, the remains of wooden walls that had mostly caved in could be seen.

It wasn't difficult to imagine the people who built these edifices, or the conditions in which they worked. Even though we were paddling in December, it was easy to envision the heat, the mosquitoes and the snakes that would have been the pervasive annoyances, not to mention a volatile, cranky foreman lazily watching.

The cypress trees on both banks of the wide creek were mostly dead due to an increase in the creek's salinity possibly caused by constant dredging of the Cape Fear River. That process, while necessary for the maintenance of the state port in Wilmington, facilitates an increase in salt water that travels upriver, which in turn gradually kills the giant, droopy trees.

The dead chutes still harbor life, though, as furry green lichens and Spanish moss cling faithfully to the gray trunks. Some were hollow, providing shelter for various



animals, and one shorter hollowed trunk we saw had a palmetto rising from its open top.

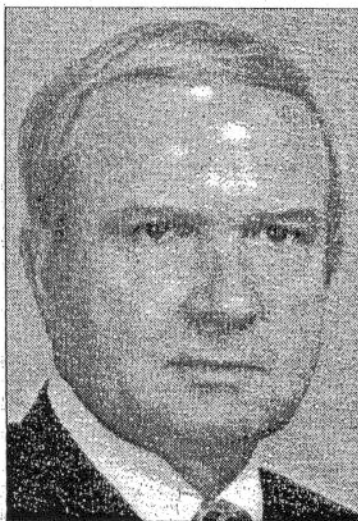
We also caught sight of some sprawling osprey nests constructed from all of the local materials—mud, Spanish moss, marsh straws and sticks. We didn't see any ospreys, though there were plenty of buzzards turning figure-eights in the cloudless sky.

On the way back to our landing point, the speed with which the tide receded was readily evident. Slick, muddy black banks emerged at the foot of the marsh grass, exposing a slimy base that two hours earlier was hidden by two feet of murky brackish water.

As we made our way back, dried stalks of marsh grass clicked together in the fresh breeze like the sound of rattlesnakes, with the only unnatural sounds in the whole area being our intermittent paddle strokes.

Then we rounded the last bend in the creek, and the familiar, repetitive drone of N.C. 133 vehicle traffic greeted us.

It was time to leave the relaxation and quiet of Town Creek behind us for now, but we departed with the knowledge that we would be able to come back as soon as the permits were okayed and the park was built.



**DR. JOSEPH B. CARTER**

**SUPPLY**—Dr. Joseph B. Carter left this earth to be with his heavenly Father on August 7, 2008.

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 51 years Clara S. Carter; son, J. Brent Carter of Raleigh and two grandsons, Jared Carter and Joey Riccio. He is also survived by three sisters, Doris Carter of Calabash, Frances Brown of Supply and Shirley Carter of Calabash. Joe leaves behind close family members, wonderful friends and many constituents in the North Carolina educational community.

Joseph B. Carter was born on March 4, 1931 on a small farm close to Calabash, NC. His life was patterned after deep religious beliefs and he always exemplified Christian values in the treatment of everyone around him. Joe graduated from Appalachian State University in 1957 with his Bachelors Degree of Science. He continued his education at N.C. State University in 1957 obtaining his Masters Degree and Doctorate in Education. He served his country in the North Carolina National Guard and retired Sergeant Major. Joe was the founding President of Brunswick Community College in Bolivia, NC from 1979 to 1986. He received the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine award in October 1982. Joe committed his entire career to the advancement of education in North Carolina as a school teacher, government employee and community college leader.

Beyond his unwavering commitment to family, Joe enjoyed the bounty of the ocean and spent many days on the water, fishing, oystering and set-

ting his nets. He loved to fix anything and always had the knowledge to tackle any project from home building to mechanical restorations. His resourcefulness only complemented his many talents and no matter what the challenge, he rose to the occasion. His spirit will live on forever through the family and friends he leaves behind.

Funeral services will be held Monday August 11, 2008 at 3:00 pm at the Brunswick Community College Odell Williamson Auditorium with Reverend Dennis Williams officiating.

Graveside services will be Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 2 pm at Raleigh Memorial Park, 7501 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, NC with Reverend David Malory officiating.

In Lieu of flowers please make contributions to the Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, Ohio 45250-0301

The family will receive friends one hour prior the funeral service at the Odell Williamson Auditorium.

You may offer condolences and sign the guestbook at [www.peacocknewnamwhite.com](http://www.peacocknewnamwhite.com)

# FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

1916 - 2005

On August 2, 1916, Long Branch and Regan Baptist Churches, both now extinct, met and agreed to unite together.

The annals of time read:

State of North Carolina, Brunswick County

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that we the undersigned presbytery met at Old Long Branch Church on the seventh day of October 1916. Being called to meet with the members of Regan Baptist Church for the purpose of constituting a regular missionary Baptist Church.

J.A.Mintz, Chairman

W. H. McKeithan, Secretary

H.I. Bennett,

Elias Jenrette

Friendship was selected as the name for the new church. All members of the rolls of both churches were accepted as members and received into the new church body. Elias Jenrette, Willie Ganus, J.M. Long, and H.I. Bennett were recognized as deacons from their former churches and formed the Deacon Board for the new church. The church covenant and Rules of order were read and adopted by the new church.

H. McKeithan was elected as church clerk. Rev. T.H. Patterson was called as pastor and the church asked to be admitted to the Brunswick Baptist Association and on vote by the Association was duly accepted. The Brunswick County Board of Education had a small community school on the property where the church now sits and made a verbal agreement to give the property to the church. No formal agreement had ever been given to the Board of Education, so once again by word of mouth from Dorse Hughes and Lucian Hughes it was agreed that the land would belong to the Friendship Baptist Church. A wooden frame structure with a steeple and bell was built. The building consisted of two Sunday School rooms and a sanctuary with a raised pulpit platform. In 1929 two Sunday School classrooms were added to the sides of the building. In later years a porch was built and eventually covered. In the early sixties two more classrooms and a small back porch was added. On October 24, 1970, the Brunswick Baptist Association met at Friendship. Church dinners had to be served outside, and on this day God sent the rain in torrents. The meal had to be served inside in the classrooms with 127 people eating everywhere. God was setting the stage for the prayers of the women of the church to be answered. For some time the ladies had been praying for a Fellowship Building. The men realized on this day that a fellowship building was not such a bad idea. In November of 1970, plans were approved for block building 40' X 32'. The building was built by the men of the church with donated labor at a cost of \$3500. In 1977 a quick claim deed was filed for the property the church was sitting on.

Harvest Day funds each year were being placed in a building fund. In 1982 the church voted to build a sanctuary. Work began on the new church in October, 1985 and was completed June, 1987. Many members worked long hours completing the new church. God answered prayer and the church was completed debt-free. The new church had been built adjacent to the old church with only a three foot clearance. Many of the older members watched with tear-filled eyes as the church of their childhood

oved slowly down the road on the Milligan House movers tandem; it had been sold to Elaine Robertson,

Clean-up and landscaping began immediately. A new sign was constructed housing the bell from the old church belfry. The fellowship building was bricked with bricks to match the new church building and a covered breezeway to connect the two buildings. New padded pews were purchased, and the old church pulpit and communion table refinished to match the new pews. An organ was donated to the church by Joe & Mary Stanaland. In June of 1987 a Dedication Service was held and God's people at Friendship praised the Lord for His blessings on them. They had banded together in love and completed the task they set out to do for Him.

On November 15, 1995, the church adopted a constitution. In 1998, Hurricane Bonnie took off the steeple, causing a hole in the roof and water damage to the sanctuary. Repairs were completed, and a new piano purchased by Harvest/ Homecoming Day in October, 1998. In 2002 church trustees began negotiations for a parcel of land adjoining the church. Purchase of the land from Bennie Harold Smith was completed in January 2003. In June of 2003 J.R. and Dave Tripp cleared and leveled the land. August 2005 the church voted to begin making plans to enlarge the Fellowship Building

This abbreviated church history does not contain the many names of God's people that have worked long and hard for His Glory nor does it contain the names of the many souls and lives that have been rededicated at this earthly edifice. It does not contain the many names of God's Servant Pastors who ve led and guided His people at Friendship. Rev. Bob Rea has served as "interim pastor" (we call him PASTOR) for almost two years. Friendship participated in Hurricane Katrina Relief for victims in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

Beatrice Bennett Sabiston went home to Glory on Sept. 29, 2005. She was the last living member to worship in the "original structure" of Friendship Baptist Church.

These pages only contain a record of some of the events that occurred to get us to this place and time in the year of our Lord 2005.

We look forward to the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Friendship Baptist Church in 2006 as we-----

We praise His Holy Name for-

"FRIENDSHIP, A CHURCH BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD,  
WHERE HIS PEOPLE COME TO WORSHIP AND PRAY.  
FRIENDSHIP, A CHURCH WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME  
WHO COME OUR WAY."

\*\*\*\*\*

MINISTERS SERVING AS PASTOR OF FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

- |                       |                      |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. T. H. Patterson  | Rev. B. R. Page      | Rev. J.I. Stone       | Rev. W. R. Guy     |
| Rev. Braxton Craig    | Rev. H. R. Brinson   | Rev. Z.G. Ray         | Rev. H. B. Bennett |
| Rev. George Hunt      | Rev. H. B. Bennett   | Rev. B.B. Parrish     | Rev. E. E. Ulrich  |
| Rev. R. W. Strickland | Rev. Earl Lanier     | Rev. R. E. Williams   | Rev. Robert E. Lee |
| Rev. Howard Fowler    | Rev. Ivren Hughes    | Rev. Larry Williamson |                    |
| Rev. J.D. Hewett      | Rev. Paul Shaffer    | Rev. Richard Dowless  | Rev. J. D. Hewett  |
| Rev. James Guffee     | Rev. James Whitworth | Rev. Bill Greer       |                    |
| Rev. Tommy Fields     | Rev. Jesse Stevens   | Rev. Bob Rea          |                    |