



NEWSLETTER

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

VOLUME XLIX

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NUMBER 3

Organized June 21, 1956

AUGUST MEETING TO BE HELD AT BEMC IN SUPPLY, NC AUGUST 10, 2009 7:30 P. M.

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

The speaker will be Mary Strickland. The North Carolina Maritime Museum's Southport branch houses a collection of memorabilia pertaining to the vast nautical history of the "Lower Cape Fear" area of southeastern North Carolina. You can easily follow the self-guided tour throughout the twelve designated stations and on-site Research Library.

The Maritime Museum assiduously collects artifacts, specimens, and documents in support of its mission: to preserve and interpret the maritime history of North Carolina. That history is considered in its broadest terms and includes the material culture of the state's coastal communities and the area's natural history which cannot be divorced from history's dynamics.

The February, 2009 issue of the NEWSLETTER began the 49th Volume. Volume I, Number 1 was printed September, 1961. A complete set of the Newsletter from September, 1961 to November, 2008 can be found in the Wilson Library at UNC-Chapel Hill, NC and at the New Hanover County Public Library North Carolina Room in Wilmington, NC. There were no publications of Volume 17, # 3 & 4 (1977) and Volume 18, # 1 (1978).

BCHS Website.....Have you visited our website??? Go to www.bchs1764.org and check it out!!

Society Officers 2009-2010

President: Glenn Kye

Vice- President: James Green

Secretary: Annette Phelps

Treasurer: Sandra Ward

Directors: Don Hickman, Jim Marlowe, 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.

Below is a copy of an original letter located in the Duke University Rare Book, Manuscript and Special Collection Library. The letter must have been written about 1895 or a little after. It addresses the organization from Sharon Class to Sharon Church in 1873. Dave Lewis, a member, found this letter in 2009 while preparing a history of Sharon United Methodist Church. He presented the history on May 31, 2009.

History of Sharon Church
Brunswick Circuit, Wilmington District, N. C. Conference

Sharon Church was organized in 1873, by W. R. Furgerson. It is located in Brunswick Co. about 3 miles from the Atlantic coast 24 miles South West of South Port the County Site, near what is now called Boon's Neck a neck of land lying between Shallotte an [sic] Lockwoods Folly rivers.

The church was organized with about 25 members. Some of the oldest and some of the most prominent members were George Kirby & Wife, J. B. Davis & Wife, J. D. Davis, J. J. Bell and Wife, R. E. Hewett, Martha Hewett, Washington Holden and A. B. Robinson.

Pastors in charge were J. W. Avent 1874, Rev. England 1875, J. W. Randal 1876-77, H. F. Wiley 1878, Jas. H. Tart 1879, T. J. Browning 1880-81, T. J. Kendal 1882, D. A. Watkins 1883, T. J. Daily 1884, G. T. Harrison 1885, T. C. Lovin 1886, M. H. Eure 1887-88, R. L. Warlick 1889, J. B. Thompson 1890-91-92, Daniel Ried 1893 & 94, R. F. Taylor 1895.

There is now about 95 members.

Respectfully,
Samuel Kirby

A HISTORY OF SHARON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SUPPLY, NORTH CAROLINA

BY: DAVE LEWIS

May 31, 2009

Sharon United Methodist Church named for the "Rose of Sharon" was founded 184 years ago in 1825 just up the road near the Silent Grove Cemetery at the corner of Oxpen Road and NC130. A small unheated log cabin school house was used for services. Services were not held in the cold winter months.

To put this in some perspective, 1825 was less than ten years after the death of Frances Asbury, the first Bishop of American Methodism. Also, I need to tie a small portion of Brunswick County History in at this point. In 1756 seven families from Cape May, NJ settled in the area of what is now known as Holden Beach. These families were Hewett's, Holden's, Leonard's, Swains, Willett's, Ludlum's and Bass. Descendants of many of these families are members of the church today. By the mid 1800's more families had moved into this area, included were Lewis', Lancaster's, Fulford's, Kirby's, Davis' and Sellers'. Descendants of these families are in attendance today. I bring this up to show how the early settlers and generations of their families have remained with Sharon for almost 200 years.

Until 1849, Sharon was in the South Carolina Conference of American Methodism. In 1850 Sharon was transferred to the Wilmington District of the NC Conference. Wilmington District included the counties of New Hanover, Pender, Brunswick, Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Robeson, Sampson, Duplin, Richmond and Scotland. Sharon was in the Shallotte Society which was part of the Smithville Circuit. At this time there were three preachers assigned to Brunswick Co. for all Methodist Churches.

In 1858 Sharon Class had 20 members, with 1 leader and 1 exhorter. In 1859 Sharon class leaders were George Kirby and John Davis.

Sharon was moved near this present location in 1860. A 20 x 30 foot log structure located at the northwest corner of the present cemetery was used. Blacks and Whites of the community were members and worshiped together. The women sat on one side of the church and the men on the other. This may sound unusual but was normal for that time period. Taken from the "Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1858, Section V." Under Public worship there is a question and answer section.

Question – Is there any exception to the rule "Let the men and women sit apart?"

Answer – There is no exception. Let them sit apart in all our churches.

In 1865 the present Cemetery at Sharon was started. Sarah Belle, a charter member was the first to be interned.

After the Civil War the Smithville Circuit became a Station Church. Sharon came under the Brunswick Circuit. In 1868 the Brunswick Circuit was again joined with Smithville which became the All-County Circuit.

Sharon Methodist Church was organized in 1873 with W. R. Ferguson as Pastor in Charge and with about 25 members. Some of the charter members were: George Kirby, George Washington Lewis, J.J. Bell, J.B. Davis, J.D. Davis, A.B. Robinson, R.E. Hewett, Martha Hewett and George Washington Holden and their families.

By 1886 the log structure had become too small and was replaced by a 40 x 60 foot frame building. The Rev. T.C. Lovin was Pastor in charge. In 1891 there were five Methodist Preachers working in Brunswick County and by 1900 Sharon had about 95 members with an average annual budget of \$75 to \$80. In 1899 the Southern portion of Brunswick Co. became the Atlantic Circuit. In 1902 the "Atlantic Circuit" became the "Shallotte Charge" with a total of seven churches. There combined value was reported to be \$3000 and the parsonage valued at \$450 and \$354 to support the pastor for a year.

Between the years of 1901 – 1951, Brunswick Co. had 3 Ministers each year to serve the two charges and one station church. The Shallotte Charge included – Shallotte Camp, Shallotte Village, Union, Andrews, New Hope, Sharon and Concord.

By 1901 all Methodist Classes had been reorganized as churches and by 1914 all churches had Sunday Schools. At this time the Superintendent of Sunday School at Sharon was G.A. Robinson. In 1940 Sharon had 122 Church members and 81 Sunday school members.

In the 1930's Sharon's frame structure was in bad need of repair and plans were made to replace it with a new building. Land on the south side of the cemetery was purchased so the cemetery could be in the back of the Church. In 1939 a new building for Sharon was started and was completed enough for service in 1942 with William G. Lowe as pastor.

The leaders and building committee were: Willie Kirby, Sam Hewett, Leander Kirby, Gus Holden, Willie Bellamy, George Robinson, Jessie Roach and Herman Gray. Mrs. Pet Lewis was Sunday School Superintendent. Mrs. Sidney Hewett was Secretary and Treasurer of the Church. Sidney Hewett and Herman Gray gave the first piano. Bedford Ludlum secured a bus so transportation could be provided to the Church. Peter Robinson gave a second piano. In 1951 and 1952 Elmer High built three classrooms.

In 1962 the building was found to contain termites and with The Rev. Harold Pickett a building fund was started. Mrs. Annie S. Potter gave the first \$1000. The Building Committee were; Clemit Holden, chairman, Herman Gray, Elmer High, Willie Bellamy, Tony Hewett and Hobby Davis. The first service was held in early 1965 and with the help of Duke Endowment Funds the building was completely paid for by the middle of that year.

On April 23, 1968, The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren were united and became "The United Methodist Church". Sharon became "Sharon United Methodist Church".

In the twenty years between 1967 and 1987 Sharon membership varied between 155 in 1967 to 147 in 1987.

In August 1979 Sharon began making plans for a full time pastor and a deed for 2 lots for a parsonage was donated by Earl Milligan and Frank Lennon. A building committee was appointed and the parsonage was started in 1980 with \$7166.20 in the building fund. The parsonage was completed in 1983 and was valued at \$79,000. In June 1984 the first full time pastor, The Rev. Donald Skinner, arrived. Followed by W. Clark Barfield, Robert E. Rattz, and Lynn T. Hall.

1984 marked the beginning of the men's club and in 1985 a cemetery committee was formed. In 1986

renovation of the sanctuary began with donations from many members. The painting of the old Sharon Church was done by Mrs. Ersell Long. In 1989 the parking lot was paved and lighting was added to the front of the Church.

A Building Committee for new Fellowship Hall was appointed in 1995 with Chairperson, Jay Hamer, members, Tom Horne, James Hobbs, Fred Parker, Patsy, Turner and Sylvia Ludlum. Groundbreaking was held on September 16, 1995, consecrated on April 27, 1997 and completely paid for in November 1999.

The recent growth of Brunswick County and Sharon's increased membership has shown a need for yet a new sanctuary. In 2009 with the recent Charge Conference and unanimous vote to build the new sanctuary we are now awaiting construction to begin.

In the March 12, 1981 Brunswick Beacon there was an article about Sharon United Methodist Church. The last paragraph says it all, "For over 150 years and several generations of families, Sharon United Methodist Church has kept the spirit of the Lord burning in the hearts of hundreds of Brunswick County residents."

From: "Melvin Sellers" <msellers@tampabay.rr.com>
To: "Gwen Causey" <gcausey@2khiway.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2009 10:02 PM
Subject: Roster of Soldiers From North Carolina In the American Revolution

Job Holden is listed on Page 342: Militia Job Holden No. 4653
Wilmington District

His pension application was filed March Term 1836, first served under Colonel Edward Wingate and Captain Jacob Leonard. He was assigned to duty on the Cape Fear River at a place called Old Brunswick., This was sometime in 1776 when he entered the service. He was again called out by Colonel Wingate in Brunswick County at a bridge on the Lockwood Folly River. The company was called the Lockwoodfolly Company

This is about all that I can make out on the copy that I have. He may have served twice at the bridge on the Lockwood Folly River, I am not sure from what little that I can read.

I hope that this will help you. Neither DAR or SAR have had anyone file using his name.

HOLDEN, JOB

State(s): NC

Series: M805 Roll: 435 Image: 138 File: R5125

BRIEF in the case of *Job Holden*
County of Brunswick, in the State of *North Carolina*
 (Act 7th June, 1832.)

1. Was the declaration made before a Court or a Judge? *Court*
2. If before a Judge, does it appear that the applicant is disabled by bodily infirmity?
3. How old is he? *79*
4. State his service, as directed in the form annexed.

Period	Duration of Service			Rank	Names of General and Field Officers under whom he served.
	Years	Months	Days	As a	Gen.
In 17	<i>not stated -</i>			<i>Private</i>	<i>Col^o Wingate, Capt Leonard</i>
	<i>not stated.</i>				<i>does not mention</i>

State he served in the Revolutionary War through

5. In what battles was he engaged? *Sherburne*
6. Where did he reside when he entered the service? *Brunswick Co. N.C.*
7. Is his statement supported by living witnesses, by documentary proof, by traditionary evidence, by incidental evidence, or by the rolls? *traditionary*
8. Are the papers defective as to form or authentication? and if so, in what respect? *correct*

I **Certify** that the foregoing statement and the answers agree with the evidence in the case above mentioned.

Charles B. Smith
 Examining Clerk.

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Charles Tharp (Tharpe) R10479

Frances fn17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of North Carolina, Brunswick County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions March Term 1836

On this eighth day of March A.D. 1836 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the above named County now sitting, Charles Tharpe a resident in the said County of Brunswick and State of North Carolina aged 90 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he thinks he first entered the service under Colonel Edward Wingate – that he cannot recollect what year it was in – that he entered the service – that he is an unlearned man – that he is sure it was about the first of the war. That he recollects while under his first term of service being stationed at an old mill on the Cape Fear River in Brunswick County. The officers he recollects were Colonel Wingate and Captain Jacob Leonard. The declarant says he was not drafted at this time, but turned out at the call of Colonel Wingate when needed – that he considered himself a volunteer. That the next time he was called he was stationed at Lockwood's folly bridge – that Colonel Wingate was one of the officers – that he thinks Samuel Leonard was Major. That after remaining two months at Lockwood's folly bridge & the neighborhood – they were marched in pursuit of Tories, but were out but a short time before they were marched to Wilmington in New Hanover County – where they met General Ashe's Army – and remained there in camp three months. The declarant further states that after being discharged in Wilmington, news was brought by one Robert Bell that the enemy were killing cattle on the marsh here Bacon's Inlet, that a part of the Lockwood's folly company this declarant being one was marched down there under Major Samuel Leonard to drive them off – that a small skirmish ensued when the enemy retreated to their row galleys and went out at the Inlet. That the next time he entered the service, he was drafted for nine months and was put under the command of Captain Thomas Devane and marched up into Duplin County and was stationed not far from Duplin Court house, where the company remained for some time keeping guard, when there being no immediate call for their company, the declarant had a furlough to go down home, subject to the call of his officers – that without his knowing of it, the company was collected under the same Captain Devane – that learning the company had marched up the River – the declarant went off in pursuit of them – and went as far as a place called Cross Creek high up the Cape Fear River above Elizabeth. That there he met with the 18 months men – not being able to fall in with his company, he joined them. That he does not recollect the names of any of the officers belonging to the 18 months men except Major Hogg. That he was marched from Cross Creek to Charleston in South Carolina where he joined General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Army – that he remained some time in camp – when he returned home – and went to his officers who were drafted him for nine months – and they told him to join the three months men and serve the time out and he should be discharged – that he went under Major Thomas Russ the Captain's name he does not recollect that he served out the three months and then got a written discharge he does not recollect the name of the officer who signed – that his discharge is lost. That during the time he was under Major Russ he was marched over into New Hanover and was at Bluford's Bridge [sic, Beaufort's bridge] when General Ashe's Army was, that the British being there and Wilmington the declarant & others were sent as spies to discover the position and movements of the enemy – that when he returned and got to the foot of the bridge on his returned to camp – the Army being on the North side of North East River a branch of the North Neck – he and his comrades finding the enemy there could not cross over at that place to the Army, but had to retreat some distance up the River and crossed over & joined the Army – that the Bridge being taken up the enemy could not cross.

That our light horse men under the command of Major Love being on the side of the River with the British, a fight took place between the British light horse & our light horse, that if it had not been for Major Love and his light horse men, the declarant and the others under the command of Major Russ who had been sent out as spies must have been killed – that he does not recollect how many were killed either of our light-horse man or the British, but he recollects that one British light-horseman was killed and one of our men got his horse and kept him and he recollects that in the fight Major Love had a ball shot through his thumb. That he cannot recollect what year this was – but he thinks soon after the British left Wilmington and went out in vessels. That after serving out the three months (being the time he had to serve to complete the nine months for which he was drafted) he was discharged as already mentioned. That he did not regularly enter into the service after this, but was occasionally called out to stand guard and render other services as a soldier the particulars of which, he cannot recollect. But knows that he served out the nine months as a private drafted soldier as above stated.

To the Interrogatories required to be propounded by the Department, he makes the following replies.

To the first Interrogatory he saith --

I was born in the State of North Carolina, not far from New River. I do not recollect the year in which I was born, I am ignorant about dates – but from what I recollect about my age, I am about 90 years of age now.

To the Second Interrogatory he saith --

I have no record of my age

To the third Interrogatory he saith --

I was living in the County of Brunswick, State of North Carolina when called into Service, I have lived in the same County and State since been Revolutionary War – where I still live.

To the fourth Interrogatory he saith

I was at first a volunteer and afterwards was drafted

To the fifth Interrogatory he saith

I cannot recollect the names of any of the Regular Officers – and I cannot recollect anything further about my service

To the sixth Interrogatory he saith

I did receive a written discharge, but it is lost – and I do not recollect by whom it was given.

To the seventh Interrogatory he saith.

I am known to the Reverend Edward Fitzgerald and Freeman Ruggly who can testify for me and Mr. Job Holden¹ can state his personal knowledge of my service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State (if any) only on that of the agency of the State of North Carolina.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathl Potter

S/ Charles Tharpe, X his mark

Job Holden a resident in the County of Brunswick and State of North Carolina aged 84 years, hereby certify that I am well acquainted with Charles Tharpe who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration. I was in the service of the United States during the Revolutionary War in company with said Charles Tharpe. We both belonged to what was called the Lockwood's folly Company. We were first together in the service under Colonel Edward Wingate and Captain Jacob Leonard and he was stationed at an old mill and Brunswick County on the Cape Fear River where we remained to guard – the object being to prevent the British from coming ashore. The next time I recollect being in service with the said Charles Tharpe was at Lockwood's folly Bridge in the said County of Brunswick under

Colonel Edward Wingate – where we remained stationed two months. Then the company was marched in pursuit of Tories for a short time through the County of Brunswick and then marched to Wilmington in New Hanover County and joined General Ashe's Militia – where we remained three months. I recollect that the said Charles Tharpe served as I have stated. I recollect also being in service with Mr. Tharpe under Major Samuel Leonard at Bacon's Inlet, where we had a skirmish with the enemy who had landed there, as was said to kill cattle. The enemy was driven off – taking their boats or small vessels, I forget which, and coined out to sea.

I have known Mr. Tharpe since I can recollect, he was always a man of good character – entitled to full credit – and I have no doubt he served in other respects during the Revolution as he states, -- but I was not with him in service at any other time, than as stated above.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathl Potter

S/ Job Holden

[Edward Fitzgerald, a clergyman, and Freeman Ruggles gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina, Brunswick County

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace, for the County of Brunswick, State of North Carolina, Charles for, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades; For six months I served as a volunteer private soldier. For nine months I served as a drafted soldier; and for such service I claim a pension.

March 8th 1836

S/ Saml. Potter, JP

ancestry.com

Upgrade

War of 1812 Service Records

Name: **Job Holden**

Company: **BRUNSWICK REG'T (MOORE'S), NORTH CAROLINA MILITIA.**

Rank - Induction: **PRIVATE**

Rank - Discharge: **PRIVATE**

Roll Box: **101**

Roll Ext: **602**

Source Information:

Direct Data Capture, comp., *War of 1812 Service Records* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 1999. Original data: National Archives and Records Administration. *Index to the Compiled Military Service Records for the Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M602. 234 rolls.

Description:

This database is a listing of men mustered into the American armed forces between 1812 and 1815 for the War of 1812. Taken from records in the National Archives, each record includes the soldier's name, company, rank at time of induction, rank at time of discharge, and other helpful information. It provides the names of nearly 600,000 men. Learn more...