

## **FCHS Officers**

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## **Monthly Speakers:**

April 14: Judy S. Cardwell

\*May 11: Clarke Stephens

**\*THIS IS A MONDAY!!!**

June 9: Fam Brownlee

July 14: Bynum Fulcher

Aug 11: Norman Holloman

Sept. 8 Michael Marshall &

Jerry Taylor

Oct. 13: Michael Hartley

Forsyth County Historical Association  
Winston-Salem, NC  
www.forsythnchistory.com

## **WELCOME TO FCHA ...** Phyllis Roberson Hoots, President

Our first FCHA newsletter has been well-received by those who have had the opportunity to read it. I am proud to be associated with some very talented members of our group, who, for a number of years, have been engaged in and dedicated to historical research in Forsyth County and the surrounding piedmont North Carolina. Their goal, as well as mine, is to ferret out historical incidents and facts about every aspect of our local history. This includes researching all the poorhouses in the area, which may reveal where the inhabitants were buried; delving into the medical practices and apothecaries; and tracing all the schoolhouses in Forsyth County, among many other historical pursuits the FCHA has in mind. A trip to the NC Archives has rewarded us with an extensive record in which school districts were laid out in the 1840s and 1850s, the documentation of which reveals descriptive landmarks and names of parents and their children; and this will be transcribed and placed on the FCHA website. There are many other school year records which we will, over time, transcribe and add to our website. A journal of a store in Kernersville and a journal of a store and post office in the Sedge Garden District (at the forks of Old Hollow Road and Baux Mountain Road---this area was known as Sedge Garden and is labeled as such on some maps) will be transcribed and added. There are many names of interest in these journals, and the transactions give insight into the economy of the communities.

We hope you will discover many new aspects of Forsyth County history as you visit our website. There are fascinating categories we have there now; and each of us have much more information, which will be organized and submitted to the website. And you may have a role in putting together the pieces of our county's story. Be sure to find the membership application in this newsletter and return it to us. Put on your "history detective hat" and join us in the fun; and if detecting is not "up your alley," then relax and enjoy the results of our sleuthing!

## **Editor's Notes . . . . .**By Cindy H. Casey

There have been some very interesting and educational information added to our FCHA Website:

**The Winston and Salem City Directories from 1879-1922:** Linked directly to the source. A few years are missing. These directories are fantastic!

**Kernersville:** Thanks to the hard work of members Jerry Taylor and Mike Marshall, many wonderful stories about Kernersville have been added. Be sure to keep checking this site. It's well worth the read!

**Obituaries:** I've added more this past month. Thanks to all of you who have contributed!

**Poorhouse Records:** This project has interested many people over the years. If you have any information on the County Homes, please be sure to let us know.

**Spanish-American War:** Our ancestors fought in this war, but little is known about their sacrifices. A database of names has been added to the FCHA website. More names and obituaries will follow. Many of the soldiers

who lived in Winston when they enlisted, moved out of the community after the war. If you have any information, i.e. obits, death records, biographies, etc., on the Winston men who fought in this war, *Please share them with us!* There are many researchers who are interested in this topic. Let's provide what we can to the community!

**Liberty Cemetery:** Please share any obits or records of those buried there before 1900.

## ***Images of my Ancestors* . . . . .By Cindy H. Casey**

When my husband and I recently moved into our new home, I immediately unpacked the pictures of my ancestors. Their serious faces greeted me once again as I pulled the bubble wrap off of their not-so-pristine oval frames.

For 30 years I collected their photographs during my research travels. After piecing their lives together on paper, I now honor them with a place to “hang out” together as a family once more!

My favorite photo is that of my great-grandparents, Robert and Clara, at their

Oklahoma family homestead. Proudly they pose with their six well-scrubbed, barefoot children. Dwarfed by his harnessed mule team, Robert easily holds them in check for this rare opportunity. The inclusion of his favorite mules signifies the importance of these animals in this family’s everyday life.

Photographs of one’s ancestors are an important addition to one’s genealogical research. They add a

great deal of interest to the many hours spent chasing dates, deeds and wills. Preserving these treasures takes time and is a serious responsibility. Why spend years collecting data only to dismiss the importance of the images of the very person you are researching?

Dig out your photographs and label each one for your descendants. The web offers many sites on preservation and care.

<http://people.maine.com/photos/tip.htm>

## **CEMETERY CARE . . . Phyllis Roberson Hoots**

Many of us often spend long hours searching for graves of long-dead relatives, and discovering the cemeteries where their remains are buried is thrilling. But, immediately, difficulties may crop up to disrupt one’s plans to enter the cemetery, survey it, and perhaps clean it up. Those plans are often thwarted by a property owner who refuses or is hesitant to allow access to an ancestral gravesite. Thus, questions arise of how to proceed in order to enter private property and visit the cemetery. Fortunately, there are statutes or laws which deal with such problems and with other situations pertaining to cemeteries and their remains, such as desecration.

Chapter 65 of the North Carolina General Statutes is known as the Cemeteries Act. It addresses all aspects regarding cemeteries, such as access to cemeteries, exhuming and re-interring remains, and vandalism of graves and cemetery accessories. Understanding the laws concerning cemeteries and thus gaining insight into one’s rights to have access to them will provide individuals relief from much unnecessary frustration.

As I stated in the first FCHA newsletter, I have been involved with cemetery research for a number of years and am very familiar with the statutes of North Carolina and have had experience dealing with various violations/vandalism or potential violations/vandalism of cemeteries. My second article, therefore, will address the complexities which can face one when contemplating what steps to take regarding their ancestral gravesites. You can find this next article in May on the FCHA MEMBERS website, entitled ***Vandalism and Rights of Descendants: The North Carolina General Statutes Regarding Cemeteries***. Hopefully, the article will familiarize you with the various statutes, offering guidance as to the proper action necessary.



**SALEM CEMETERY**  
Winston-Salem, NC

## **DID YOU KNOW??**      **By Kathleen Clayton**

### **THE BLUE DEATH.....The Spanish Influenza**

The Blue Death, commonly referred to as the Spanish Influenza, spread like wildfire across the state of North Carolina in the fall of 1918, eventually killing at least 13,000 North Carolinians. Winston-Salem was not spared. The November 9, 1918 Winston-Salem Journal reported that a total of 159 residents of Winston-Salem had died during a five week period. During that time about 5,900 individuals in Winston-Salem were stricken with the Spanish Influenza. Of those dead, the majority were single people between the ages of fifteen and forty-six years of age. The virus was deadliest among those whose immune systems were strongest - the young and the fit. The virus started in Spain in May of 1918 and involved 38 per cent of the population within a short period of time.

On September 14, 1918, the Winston-Salem Journal's front page featured a story by the Associated Press in Washington about the Spanish Influenza. It provided a description of the virus, its treatment and prevention methods. Almost daily, articles appeared in the newspaper from then until mid November. The first significant report of local outbreaks occurred on September 20<sup>th</sup> with a headline, "SEVERAL CASES OF FLU AROUND TOBACCOVILLE". The short story that followed said, "Already we hear of several cases of influenza in this section we are sorry to say. Mr. Henry Lineback is suffering with an attack of influenza. Hope he will be out again soon." The next local news of the virus was on October 1<sup>st</sup>, with a headline on page 6, "INFLUENZA SPREADING OVER WINSTON-SALEM".

The October 20<sup>th</sup> Winston-Salem Journal reported that "Mrs. John W. Hanes had tendered her handsome residence on West Fourth St. to the Red Cross, to be used as an emergency hospital." The ambulance used to deliver patients to the home was driven by Mr. John G. Hanes.

On October 26<sup>th</sup> the Health Committee of the Board of Alderman ordered all stores closed at 4pm except grocery stores, meat markets and cigar stands which were to close by 7pm. The October 27, 1918 Winston-Salem Journal printed the results of a door to door survey of Winston-Salem, Southside, Centerville and Waughtown. The superintendent of the city schools, Mr. R.H. Latham directed the survey. The results showed that 16.5% of those surveyed had been affected by the influenza with the heaviest concentration being in "Southside and Centerville, south and west of the car line".

Complete article can be found at MEMBERS ONLY SITE <http://www.forsythnchistory.com/members/meminfluenza.html>

## ***THIS and THAT.....***

**Would you like to transcribe records for the FCHA Website??**

**If so, please become a volunteer and help FCHA preserve our county's history**

[forsythhistory@yahoo.com](mailto:forsythhistory@yahoo.com)

**HEARD ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY????**

***Forsyth County Library now offers Downloadable Audiobooks***

Selected bestsellers, book club favorites, award-winning authors, self-help-language, and more. There are over 1,600 titles to choose from with additional titles added each month. You can download them to your computer or transfer them to a portable listening device. For all the details, log onto Forsyth County Public Library's web site at [www.forsythlibrary.org](http://www.forsythlibrary.org) and click "Downloadable Audio."

*Are you searching for historical or genealogical information in the Forsyth County area????*

*Email your query to [forsythhistory@yahoo.com](mailto:forsythhistory@yahoo.com)*

*And we'll post it to our [new FCHA Query Site](#).*

## Patent Applications of Forsyth County Citizens...

### *Editors Website Pick*

**Check the Patent site for some fascinating inventions!**

**John W. Fries invented an Improved Button-Sewing attachment for sewing machines in 1876, and in 1899 he wrote a patent to improve dyeing Textile Materials!**

[www.google.com/patents](http://www.google.com/patents)

Have you ever heard of Rhodes E. Pullen? He was born in Kentucky around 1884. He eventually moved to Forsyth County and married a local girl named Viola Younts. In the 1920 US Census, Rhodes worked for the Associated Press in the Printing Office in Winston-Salem. On May 20, 1919 Pullen received a Patent "for a new and useful improvement in Ribbon-Reinking Attachments for Type-writers." The object of the invention was to "provide a method and means to re-ink and prolong the life of type-writer ribbons." Mr. Pullen found a way to re-ink ribbons for the AP and in turn made himself rich. When he died, he was a retired Stock Broker!

To find other Forsyth County residents who applied for U.S. Patents visit [www.google.com/patent](http://www.google.com/patent). Just type "Forsyth Co., NC" in the search box.



The FCHA will continue to add information to our POORHOUSE website. If you have any information or photos you would like to share, please be sure to contact us. This is a very important project and we need your help!

## FORSYTH COUNTY POORHOUSES / Almshouses

Kim Quintal is making a documentary film about North Carolina's former County Homes and Poorhouses, and would like to interview anyone who remembers the old Forsyth County Home. If you visited someone there, had relatives there, or have any stories or information about the old home, please Kim Quintal at [wolfiequ@bellsouth.net](mailto:wolfiequ@bellsouth.net). To assist Kim, the FCHA has added a Poorhouse site to our webpage. <http://www.forsythnchistory.com/poorhouse.html>

There has been a great deal of information added to the site, but more work needs to be done. If you know of anyone who once lived in the County Homes, or have information, please be sure to contact the FCHA or Kim Quintal.

## UNC – GO BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE HISTORICAL COLLECTION!!!

The program, "**Open Stacks: Behind the Scenes in the Southern Historical Collection, Southern Folklife Collection, and University Archives of Wilson Library,**" will run through April 30, 2009. The event is free and open to the public. This open house will compliment the exhibit, **Making Archives: An Inside Look at the Work to Preserve Southern Memory.** Both events are on the fourth floor of Wilson Library.

Staff from the collections will guide visitors through the restricted stack areas and will display treasures stored in the archival vault. There will be letters in the hand of presidents George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, another penned by poet Langston Hughes, and one signed by Albert Einstein. Meeting records and maps from the 1790s will describe the founding of the University.

This free, public exhibit will feature photographs, documents, and artifacts spotlighting the work of UNC's manuscript archivists in preserving the history of the South. Photos will chronicle the journey of archival materials beginning with their arrival at UNC. One mid-20th-century photograph shows staff unloading material in the rawest form — stored in whiskey boxes. Also on exhibit will be samples of archival items ready for use, such as Civil War era diaries and papers from the collection of author and UNC alumnus Walker Percy.

For Exhibit passes call (919) 962-1345. <http://www.lib.unc.edu/spotlight/2009/archives.html>

## Schedule of Speakers... [www.forsythnchistory.com/meetings.html](http://www.forsythnchistory.com/meetings.html)

**April 14, 2009**

**TOWNFORK SETTLEMENT**

By Judy S. Cardwell

See *FCHA Newsletter*

*Vol. 1 Issue 1*

for more information on her  
*Deeds presentation.*

[www.forsythnchistory.com/newsletter.html](http://www.forsythnchistory.com/newsletter.html)

MORE DEED INFORMATION ON THE  
**MEMBER ONLY DEED PAGE**

### **MONDAY-MONDAY**

**May 11, 2009**

**Mr. Clarke Stephens**

Clark Stevens is the current and past president of the Piedmont Tobacco Club and active member of the Homestead Postcard Club. He is currently the superintendent of the Department of Antiques of the Dixie Classic Fair. Mr. Stevens will be sharing many items he has collected over the years including matchbook covers, tobacco items, postcards and NASCAR memorabilia.

**June 9, 2009 -**

**Fam Brownlee**

**North Carolina Room  
Librarian.**

Mr. Brownlee is the "resident expert" of the collections of the North Carolina Room. If you have never visited the N.C. Room, located in the Central Library on Fifth Street, downtown Winston-Salem, you are in for a wonderful treat! Local history is one of Mr. Brownlee's passions and past times and the North Carolina Room is the hub of Forsyth County's finest historical collections.

## **DEEDS OF GIFT by Judy Cardwell**

During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century the most common Deed of Gift was giving a slave or slaves to another individual. There are usually no considerations in a Deed of Gift except such words as 'natural love and affection'. Below is an example of a Deed of Gift of a slave from Mary Bitting (1766-1841) to Martha [Bitting] Banner (1782-1854). Mary and Martha are the daughters of Anthony Bitting Sr. and Martha Poe Bitting.

*31 Dec 1839 - Stokes County, NC; Stokes Deed 14, page 37: Know all men by these presents that I MARY BITTING of the county of Stokes in the State of North Carolina for and in consideration of the natural love and affection which I have given and by these presents do hereby give unto my Said Sister MARTHA BANNER the following Slaves, to wit, CHARITY, aged about seventeen years and child MARHA ANN aged about nine months to have and to hold to the said MARTHA BANNER her heirs executors administrators and assigns forever hereby reserving unto my self the full use and enjoyment of the said Slaves CHARITY and her said child MARTHA ANN for and during my natural life. In witness whereof I have herewith set my hand and seal this 31th day of December AD 1839. Witness Jno. F. Poindexter ; Mary (X) Bitting*

SEAL State of North Carolina Stokes County June Term 1842. The execution of the within Bill of Sale was duly proved in open court by the oath of John F. Poindexter ; ordained to be registered. Jno. Hill, C. C. C.

For more information and a map please go to our MEMBERS ONLY website

[www.forsythnchistory.com/members/memdeedofgift.html](http://www.forsythnchistory.com/members/memdeedofgift.html)

# FCHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## Forsyth County Historical Association

WEBSITE

[www.forsythnchistory.com](http://www.forsythnchistory.com)

EMAIL:

[forsythhistory@yahoo.com](mailto:forsythhistory@yahoo.com)

Meetings are held March through  
October the second Tuesday of  
the month at 7 pm.

Reynolda Manor Branch Library  
2839 Fairlawn Drive  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
(336)703-2960

Should there be a location change of  
our meeting, please check our  
website at  
[www.forsythnchistory.com/meetings.html](http://www.forsythnchistory.com/meetings.html)

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

[www.forsythnchistory.com/](http://www.forsythnchistory.com/)

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ (new\_\_\_\_ renewal\_\_\_\_)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone:( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

Password for FCHA Members Site \_\_\_\_\_  
(less than 10 lower case letters- please print)

Dues: \$25.00 for 12 months (Jan-Dec)

Lifetime Membership: \$125.00

Please make check payable to: **Forsyth County Historical Association**  
**6025 Crestridge Road, Winston-Salem, NC. 27106**

**I agree not to share my FCHA User ID or Password with other members or non-members**

**Signature Required:** \_\_\_\_\_

### ***About Becoming a Member***

*If you are interested in your heritage as well as the history of Forsyth County, the FCHA is the organization you should join! Our speakers will educate you in their various fields of expertise. The MEMBERS ONLY SITE will provide you with research information not accessible to our general readers.*

*Our organization has great plans! Become a member and experience how interesting history and heritage can be!*

## **FCHA**

6025 Crestridge Rd  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

