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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Apex Historical Society (AHS) held its Annual Membership Meeting at the Maynard-Pearson House (MPH) on March 20, 2008. A potluck dinner was enjoyed by all the members and then the meeting was called to order by the President, Judy Miles.

Points covered at the meeting included the Annual AHS Plant Sale, Peak Week, and the Fourth of July. Judy passed around sign-up sheets asking for volunteers to work the AHS tent at both Peak Week and the Fourth of July Celebration in downtown Apex. If you would like to volunteer some of your time for these events, please contact Judy Miles.

Judy presented a change that needed to be made in the by-laws; it was proposed that the membership dues be changed to show that it will now be \$100 for a two-year Corporate membership instead of for just one year. This way, corporate sponsors can receive an AHS decal every other year showing their membership status. The membership voted to approve this change.

Judy also reported on tours she had given of the MPH to a Boy Scout troop and also to Mr. Maynard and his family. She suggested that we should establish one day a year that the MPH would be open to the public for touring purposes. We could eventually expand this to one Open House day in the spring and one in the fall. Members of the AHS would act as tour guides during the Open House days to give a history of the MPH to visitors.

New Board Members and Officers were also elected at the Annual Meeting. The Board is now comprised of: Judy Miles, President; John Pearson, Vice President; Mary Petersen, Secretary; Laverne Seagroves, Treasurer; and Board Members Jan Brooks, Mary Sue Lane, Diane Long, Bill Sutton, and Mack Thorpe.

Many thanks to all of the members who attended the Membership meeting, and for bringing such delicious food!



NOTICE

Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 24, 3-5 p.m. This is the time for the historical society's annual ice cream social. Once again we will be enjoying homemade ice cream and cookies/cake. Following the social the Preservationists of Year Award will be presented.

It's time to begin planning the 2008 Homes Tour. If you know someone who would offer their home for the tour, please contact them, and let me know. If you are interested in being part of this exciting event, please call one of the board members. Last year's tour was great, and we want 2009 to be even better.



NEEDED

Looking ahead to next year, we ask you to please save the pots your plants come in when you purchase them. We will need them when we start potting plants for next year's sale. They can be left at the Maynard-Pearson House at 1101 Olive Chapel Road. If you have questions, please call 363-3268.

HAPPENINGS AT THE MAYNARD-PEARSON HOUSE

April 19 was a perfect spring day for cleaning at the Maynard-Pearson House. Buddy Holland and Colleen Newman polished the furniture and swept and cleaned the floors and porches. Laverne Seagroves, Doug Owen, Harry and Shirley Beasley, and Judy Miles worked in the yard. The flower gardens were weeded and cultivated. The azaleas that didn't survive the past summer's drought were dug up, and the dead parts of others were removed. Doug hauled many loads of mulch from our mulch pile and has returned another day to complete the job. Shirley and Harry have planted hostas in front of the house, and they look attractive. Many thanks to those who took part in these much needed activities.

With the severe drought of the past year many gardeners were concerned whether there would be plants available for a plant sale this year. Therefore, a plant sale was not planned. Little did we know...God sent the rain, and plants flourished. Society members dug and potted their surplus plants and held a successful sale on April 26. The workers enjoyed making new friends, and five people joined the society. Five hundred twenty-one dollars worth of plants were sold. Thank you to all who contributed your labor, time, and plants and to all who worked the day of the sale.



AHS WEB COMMITTEE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The AHS Web Committee, consisting of Mack Thorpe (Chair), Molly Weston, John Pearson, and Mary Petersen, has embarked on a project to capture the oral history and heritage of the historical buildings, structures, and homes of Apex. The project has two main parts: firstly, to research and document the heritage of the historical buildings, and secondly, to capture and document the oral history from residents of Apex.

We will be contacting all members of the society in the next few weeks to request your help in making this project a success. This is an opportunity for every member to make a contribution to the society and to this project. Initially, areas where we will need help will be in suggesting names of Apex residents whom you feel should be interviewed and looking through your own documents to see if there is anything that may be relevant to this project. As we move to the interview stage, we will need volunteers to interview residents, take photographs, record the conversations, and transcribe the interviews. If you feel you have something to offer, we would love to hear from you. Again, you will be receiving a letter from the Web Committee within the next few weeks asking for your assistance. Please help us in making this project a success; we want the proud history of Apex to be known!

Please contact Mack Thorpe, John Pearson, Molly Weston, or Mary Petersen to volunteer your services.

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Secretary, Mary Petersen (363-4817 mpete427@yahoo.com)	Diane Long (362-8097; diane@forestduke.com)
Treasurer, Laverne Seagroves (303-5071)	Bill Sutton (387-9221; thesuttons@nc.rr.com)
	Mack Thorpe (630-5600 therustybucket@mindspring.com)

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following new members:

Gail Beaulieu
Chris & DiAne Benzie

Shawn Fuller
Kathy Joyce

Shannon Marrujo
Margaret Moore

Douglas Owen
Karen Reed



INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME FOR A HISTORY PROJECT?

Bob Crowley, Vice President of the Apex Arts Council, was present at the March Board meeting and requested assistance with some upcoming projects. Mr. Crowley is responsible for creating exhibits for the new Halle Cultural Arts Center in downtown Apex, and he is looking for volunteers to help with these exhibits. The help could be in the form of research, writing text for the displays, or setting up the exhibits. If this is of interest to you, please contact Bob Crowley at bobcrowleynhvry@mindspring.com or 349-3557.



COMMENTS NEEDED

There has been a request by Bob Crowley to borrow some items from the Maynard-Pearson House (MPH) to display at the Halle Cultural Arts Center downtown for various exhibits. These items would be on a temporary loan from the MPH and would be returned after each exhibit was complete. Since many of the items in the house were donated or loaned with the specific purpose of displaying them in the MPH, the AHS Board thought that you, as members, should have an opportunity to comment. We invite you to contact any board member to discuss your feelings regarding this proposition. We will then vote on whether items should be removed from the MPH on a temporary loan basis. The contact information for all the Board Members appears on the inside cover of the Dispatch.



CABOOSE STANDING PROUD

The restoration of our downtown caboose has been completed, and once again, our quaint and historic railroad remnant is ready to greet the public during Peak Fest activities, May 3rd.

Acquired by the infant Apex Historical Society in early 1988, it wasn't until May of 1991 that the caboose had finally realized its permanent relocation, siting, and restoration. It was then formally introduced to the public and presented to the town of Apex during the Peak Week festivities.

Now, seventeen years later, it's once again looking as proud as our heritage. We extend our deep gratitude to the Town of Apex and the Apex Chamber of Commerce for their contributions to our effort. We are also proud of the artistic efforts of Bob Hartig, the painter, and thankful for the contribution of the paint by Mary Petersen and her family, and the advice and interest from Bob Crowley and the New Hope Railroad Society.

The lovely adjacent garden by the Apex Garden Club and the benches which were given by the Apex Rotary Society have all contributed to making our caboose a memorable downtown destination.

DON'T FORGET:

Membership dues are now due!!! If you have not yet paid your dues for this year, please send your payment to:

Apex Historical Society
PO Box 506
Apex, NC 27502

We appreciate your timely response to this request.



Apex Depot

Apex Historical Society
PO Box 506
Apex, NC 27502