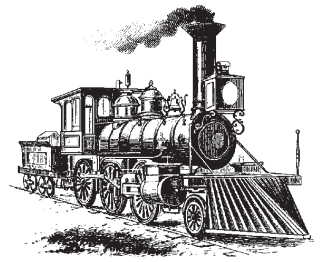


the DISPATCH

Fall 2013

Vol. XXV, No. 3



Christmas Home Tour

The lights will be burning all over Apex the weekend of December 6–8! Christmas on Salem Street kicks off Friday night, December 6, with the tree lighting and sleigh rides. Saturday is full of events beginning with a pancake breakfast and continuing with pictures with Santa and the annual parade.

Sunday, December 8, however, belongs to the Apex Historical Society with our annual Christmas Home Tour. Five homes, a church, the Union Depot, and the Society's headquarters will be open for the event. The tour will begin at 1:00 PM and end at 5:00. Venues on the tour follow:

Bobby and Alene Glover
1711 Brashear Court

Alexis Miller & Ryan Reed
611 Olive Street

Joe & Amanda Coughlin
1009 North Salem Street

Mack & Pam Thorpe
501 New Hill-Olive Chapel Road

Keith & Charlotte Otterbein
403 Grove Street

Apex United Methodist Church
100 South Hughes Street

Apex Chamber of Commerce
220 North Salem Street

Maynard-Pearson House
1101 Olive Chapel Road

Past president **Mary Petersen** is chairing the 2013 tour. Volunteers interested in helping with the tour are urged to contact Mary at 919.363.4817. Many hands, ideas, and talents are needed to make the tour successful. Opportunities include decorating the Maynard-Pearson House—

we had four trees last year—making treats for the Sweet Shoppe, handling ticket sales, hosting at houses, directing parking, making signs, and many other tasks.

The holiday tour is the Society's biggest fund raiser of the year and needs the most volunteers. Please call Mary to offer your support!

John Pearson made this photo of the tree in the Norris Parlour last year.



President's Corner

by Diane Long

Our community is changing. We have experienced newcomers who wanted to name the new school in Western Wake County "Western Apex High School." [See Diane's letter to the Western Wake, below right.] Although our society has often been silent about changes that have historical significance to our area, we must, in the future speak out for what we believe.

We just lost the Cash house on Salem Street for a parking lot. The Hunt House and Dr. John Kent Pearson's last home on North Salem are slated for demolition. The Apex Historical Society must work with Apex officials, the Capitol Area Preservation Society and North Carolina Preservation so save historic landmarks.

Money Magazine just named Apex as an outstanding place to live even without another parking lot or housing development. Let's help keep the charm of history alive in Apex!



Caboose Sign

by John Messler

This spring, the sign in front of the caboose was looking pretty shabby. Rain water had gotten into the mounting frame and a portion of the sign was swollen and falling apart. In taking the sign to get quotes from several companies, we met the folks at Sign Edge, a new company located on Reliance Avenue off Ten-Ten Road. Bruce Meyer at Sign Edge volunteered to replace the sign at their cost as a donation to the Historical Society.

The new sign is beautiful and the frame has been repaired and repainted. If you have a need for sign work, we encourage you to use Sign Edges' services and to be sure to thank them for their donation.

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A Nod to History

The Apex Historical Society commends the Wake County Board of Education for choosing the name Apex Friendship High School.

Our organization promotes history in Apex and the surrounding areas. The Friendship community has a long-standing history important to the people and the community at large. We appreciate the recognition to the Friendship community and those individuals representing generations of families who have lived there.

Thank you for saying, "It's our job to represent the entire community."

Many people are moving into our area who are not familiar with the history of those who live here; however, the Wake County Board of Education has done a good deed by preserving and going forward with an educational project to benefit generations to come.

Diane Long, President, AHS
—Sunday, September 1, 2013

Preservation Award

by Diane Long & Jan Brooks

The Apex Historical Society presents its Preservation Award annually to a member who has contributed in a special way to the historical significance of the organization or community. This year, the award was given to **Bill and Claire Rousseau** during the 25th anniversary.

Bill and Claire have been core members since the inception of the Apex Historical Society in 19897. They were two of the pioneers and gave 100%. Their involvement included activities such as the annual home tours, parades, Christmas Tree Lightings, and numerous other activities. Charter members, they were on the first board of directors. Claire served as president in 2000–2001 and Bill served as treasurer.

The board and [committee name?] sub-committee voted for them to receive the award this year in observation of the 25 years as a society. The Rousseaus were generous contributors to both the founding and 25th anniversary.

Maynard-Pearson House Repairs

by John Messler

If you've been to the Maynard-Pearson House in the last few months you must have seen the condition of the back porch ceiling. Due to a water leak that had existed for an extended period of time a portion of the roof was rotted. Several roof boards, the rafters and the beam that supported the center of the roof were severely damaged. In the last few weeks, the problem had become so severe that the beam in the center of the roof seemed in imminent danger of collapsing.

We obtained a Certificate of Appropriateness from Capital Area Preservation which allowed us to proceed with repairs. After receiving quotes from several contractors, the job was given to Lee Williams of Leland Builders. Many of our members are familiar with Leland from the work they have previously done on several historic homes in the Apex area including the Maynard-Pearson House. Lee and his crew did an excellent job on the repairs which required removal of the metal roofing over the porch so the beam, rafters and roofing boards could be replaced.

It is interesting that the original roof rafters were split in the middle just above the beam in the center of the porch. This implies that the porch at one time may have been only half as deep as it currently is and that the rafters, roof and porch were extended at some time in the past. The new rafters installed by Lee Williams are the full length of the porch and the center beam was replaced to maintain the original appearance of the Maynard-Pearson House rather than because it is needed to support the roof.

Painting was not included in the repair work, so we are looking for volunteers to scrape and paint the porch.

We are now ready to move on to the next repair tasks that are needed and will be looking for quotations on a complete painting of the house, including needed repairs, scraping and all prep work.

Membership & Support

The Board is trying to obtain an accurate membership count. If you have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible.

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Seniors | \$10.00 |
| Individuals | \$15.00 |
| Family | \$25.00 |
| Contributing | \$35.00 |
| Sustaining | \$50.00 + |

One of our membership goals this year is for every member to enroll one new member. Think how that would help our membership numbers grow!

Memorial

In memory of Ellen Cameron and Ruth Maynard, founders of the Apex Teenage Club that met for many years in the upstairs of the "Old Town Hall" (Halle Center) by Marcia Maynard Lund.

Thank you, Marcia for your generous donation.

Re-Member

Trevor Hedrick

Grants

by John Messler

We have applied for several grants this year. As many of you are aware, the availability of funds from donors has diminished significantly since the downturn in the economy. Additionally, there are very few organizations that are willing to donate money for actual physical preservation work such as the repairs and improvements needed for the Maynard-Pearson House.

This spring we applied for a grant from the Downtown Merchants Festival Commission. We requested funds to help us accomplish the transcription of oral history interviews as moving from the tape recordings to transcribed notes has been a bottleneck for us. We were granted \$300 by the Commission which can be used to pay a part-time transcriptionist or purchase equipment to help us accomplish these tasks.

This summer, we sent a letter of request to Mr. Jim Bambul, the store manager at the Beaver Creek Lowe's store for funds to perform repairs and maintenance on the Maynard-Pearson House including the back porch repairs and prep work and painting of the house. We found that local store managers are limited to small donations and that we would need to apply for funding from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation. In July we applied for a Lowe's Community Part-

ners Grant from the Foundation. We had assistance from David Rowland, Mr. Bambul, and a letter of support from Mayor Keith Weatherly. Unfortunately, we learned in September that we would not receive any funding from Lowe's.

We also applied for a Community Impact Grant from the Home Depot Foundation in July. The request was again for funding for repairs to the Maynard-Pearson House. We have also learned that we would not receive funding from this Foundation either.

We learned about the Marion Stedman Covington Foundation in Greensboro from the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies. The Federation described the Covington Foundation as one of just a few foundations to focus on historic preservation. Their preference is to provide challenge grants or seed support, but they have previously provided funding for restoration work on historic structures. We applied for a grant from this foundation that would essentially cover the cost of the repairs to the back porch of the Maynard-Pearson House. We have been advised that the Covington Foundation will consider our request at their October meeting.



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Apex Historical Society
PO Box 506 • Apex NC 27502
2012 Membership Application/Renewal

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Membership Class - Please Circle

Individual \$15 • Senior (70+) \$10 • Family \$25 • Contributing \$35 • Sustaining \$50 • Patron \$100

2-Year Business \$100