

# THE WHITTLERS BENCH

SOUTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

313 EAST MOORE ST. • SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA 28461

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## SOCIETY SPONSORS HISTORICAL EXHIBIT

The exhibit of local history items, sponsored by Southport Historical Society, was a popular attraction at this year's

Fourth of July Festival.

An estimated 500 people visited the outdoor exhibit on Howe Street beside the Curiosity Shop where photographs, maps, documents and artifacts were on display. Items in the exhibit were loaned by members and friends of the historical society, with additional materials taken from our archival collection.

We would like to thank H.A. Schmidt for re-photographing and printing more than a hundred old and fragile photographs and for generously donating these prints to the archives. Other photographs provided by Reese Swan and by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources were also greatly appreciated. Our sincere thanks to the following people who contributed to the exhibit:

Margaret Swan Hood  
Annie May Woodside  
Lois Jane Herring  
Elizabeth Davis Watkins  
Trudy McNeil Hufham  
Jan Pollock  
Marge Rawls  
Dot Schmidt  
Bobby & L'lana Thorsen

Mercedes Sell  
John Robert Lane, Jr.  
John Weeks  
Noni Rogers  
Eleanor P. Smith  
Carl Lounsbury  
Susie Carson  
Ted & Cathy Holth  
City of Southport

## CEREMONY LAUNCHES BOOK SALE

The first volume of Bill Reaves' long awaited chronology of Southport history was placed on sale at this year's Fourth of July Festival.

On Sunday, July 2, during ribbon cutting ceremonies for the opening of the Historical Society exhibit, Mr. Reaves presented the first copy to Miss Annie May Woodside, to whom the book is dedicated. Copy number 2 was given to Mayor Eugene Tomlinson.

Throughout the three-day festival, Mr. Reaves autographed copies as they were sold. Many out-of-town visitors as well as Southport residents were eager to obtain the book. Other copies were purchased by mail from as far away as Michigan, Louisiana, West Virginia, and other points across the country. To date, about 300 have been sold.

The remaining copies are now available at \$ 5.00 each. They may be obtained from the Curiosity Shop or from Bobby Thorsen (telephone: 457-6596). Mail orders should be sent to Southport Historical Society at the address shown on this newsletter.

## BROCHURE IS COMPLETED

The historical society's new brochure, entitled "A Brief History of Southport," is now being distributed to the public. With the help of the public library, City Hall, local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce, we hope to make the brochure readily available to anyone seeking information about our town.

In addition to a thumbnail history of the town, the brochure also describes the work of our Society and provides an application for membership. The cover, showing a typical Southport house, was designed and sketched by Faith Birkhead.

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