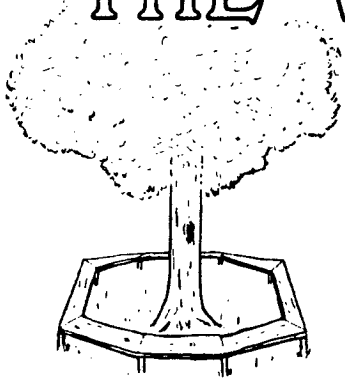


THE WHITTLERS BENCH

SOUTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

501 N. Atlantic Ave. • SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA 28461

June 1988



JUNE MEETING:

Our Society will hold its meeting at the CP&L Visitor's Center on June 23, 1988 at 7:30 PM.

The Speaker for the meeting will be Mr. Jesse R. Lankford, Assistant State Archivist of North Carolina. He will speak on the Care and Preservation of Personal papers, Old books, and Photographs and how we can take care of them at home. Please plan to attend.

HISTORICAL TOTE BAGS AND NOTE CARDS: Beautiful heavy canvas tote bags and excellent quality note cards with the "Old Brunswick County Jail-1904, Southport Historical Society" logo, designed by member Don Johnson, are on sale and limited supply. They were purchased as a money-making project by the Society and will be at the Old Jail and Antique Show during July 4th celebration.

Anyone wishing to be sure of getting some should call Frances Allen at 278-3708 or get them at the June 23 meeting. Tote bags are \$8.00 each and note cards with envelopes, package of five for \$2.50. Be sure to get some while supplies last.

JAIL REPORT: At last! Blooming flowers in our garden at the Old Jail now include marigolds, rambling roses, geraniums, allysum, and a hydrangea. What a joy to see the beds slowly and painfully take shape.

The jail interior is much cleaner and a lot more litter-free, thanks to the work party who performed great wonders on Saturday, May 13, and were rewarded by a yummy lunch for their efforts. More work is to be done yet. Vinyl floor covering was donated by Roger Smith, Pelican Building Supplies Manager, and is to be put down in the down-stairs restroom once it has been painted.

Many thanks to these people and to the City of Southport officials who made it possible for us to have the magnificent sign made and installed outside our "Old Jail". If you haven't seen it, stop by and appreciate its beauty.

N.C. LITERARY AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION: An ^{application} ~~advertisement~~ for membership in the N. C. Literary and Historical Association is included in this issue of the Whittlers Bench. The goals of the Association are:

- To foster the interest of our people in the literature and history of North Carolina
- To encourage literary activity
- To promote local history
- Concern for the permanent well-being of North Carolina
- And to cooperate with other organizations whose purposes are similar

A NOTE FROM SUSIE: Dear Friends: Your gifts, cards, flowers, kind deeds, prayers and telephone calls during my illness have meant so much to me. There are no words to really express what I feel, but I truly feel loved. You are a group of wonderful people and I am glad to be a part of such an organization that "cares for its own". Although there is more surgery to come, it should not be a long drawn out affair as this has been and I hope to be back with you in a few weeks. Thank you again for all you have done for me. SUSIE CARSON

OLD JAIL AIR CONDITIONER: Harry Bennett of Brunswick Community College, and his Air Conditioning class has been working on restoring the Air Conditioner unit for the Old Jail. Many thanks to them.

HISTORICAL TID BITS

Bounty Land Warrant Application file 856-1100
National Archives and Records Service, Series Microfilm M-804, 1245.
The file contained the following papers:

Robert Howe appointed Samuel Hawkins of Brunswick County, N.C. as his Attorney in Fact, with full power and authority on 1 February 1802. Signed and sealed in Richmond, VA by Robert Howe.

The Land Warrant was filed and attested to by Benj. Smith on 8 February 1802 in the Court of Pleas Quarter Session, certified and signed by Edward Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Court.

An affidavit made by Sarah Dry Smith of Brunswick County, N.C. states that she was well acquainted with Major General Robert Howe of the Contential Line and his wife Mrs. Sarah Howe from her infancy. That Robert Howe of Brunswick County, State of North Carolina and that she never knew that General Howe had any other male heir but the said Robert Howe, the Claimant. Signed and sealed by Sarah Dry Smith. Sworn to in open court 28 July 1829, Edwd. Fitzgerald, Cler, CC.

An affidavit of Edward Fitzgerald, Clerk of the County Court, Brunswick, N.C. certifies that Robert Howe, Esquire of Brunswick County is heir and administrator with the will annexed of the late Major General Robert Howe of the Contential Line in the Revolutionary War. Signed 13 February 1819 and in the XLII year of our Independance. signed Edr. FitzGerald, Clk CC. (actual will not included in file)

February 23, 1820, Warrant #856 for 11 hundred acres of Bounty Land was issued for the benefit of son Robert Howe of Brunswick County, N. C. and other heirs whose names are not given. Robert Howe only male heir of Soldier.

NOTE: IF ANYONE HAS ANY OLD PHOTOS OR PAPERS THEY WOULD LIKE FOR OUR SPEAKER TO CHECK, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING THEM TO THE MEETING.

TREES, BRANCHES, AND TWIGS

Please write to these people direct if you have information to share. Send a stamped, addressed, envelope for a reply.

If you have any information on JOSEPH T. THOMPSON, SR. who was married to CATHERINE BRINKMAN, it would be appreciated.
Cecil N. Thompson, 2229 Silver Pines Place, Orlando, FL 32808

I am doing research on the Old Smithville family of WESCOTT, and am willing to share information.
James Waggoner, 3212 Barker Place, Raleigh, NC 27604.

NOTE FROM THE GENEALOGY COMMITTEE

Included in this Whittlers Bench is an application for the Pioneer and Century Family Certificates. Since we initiated this project at the first meeting of the year we have issued several certificates, and have a file started on those ancestors.

Please note, you are asked to send us proof of descent. This project is not only for fun and to honor our ancestors, but to build a file of local family history. Personal family knowlege of recent generations, is acceptable, but should be marked as such on the application. Copies of Bible records, other family papers, and even cemetery locations or tombstone rubbings are the type of records we want to preserve and make available to other researchers. Information from public records need only be referenced as to source.

Use a seperate form for each ancestor you want on your certificate. The forms and the listing on them of the ancestor's children are what constitute our reference file. This is cross-referenced to where the information was located. In future years this information will be invaluable to family researchers and historians.

DUE TO THE POSTAGE INCREASE, the price for the certificates is now \$2.50. And Please, won't you include at least a \$5.00 donation to the Cemetery Endowment Fund?

CEMETERY ENDOWMENT FUND UP-DATE

The Cemetery Committee recently send 30 letters to the various social and civic clubs of the Southport/Oak Island are, requesting support for the Fund. Response, so far, has been very positive, with a \$50.00 donation from the Southport Garden Club, and a \$100.00 donation from the Southport Lions Club.

The Certificate of Deposit has earned \$9.40 interest, so that current balance is now \$509.40.

The Regular Endowment Fund Account now has \$422.23.

The Cemetery Committee is pleased to announce something new! A GIFT THAT WILL KEEP ON GIVING. YOU can now make a donation to the Cemetery Endowment Fund "In Memory of" or "In Honor of".

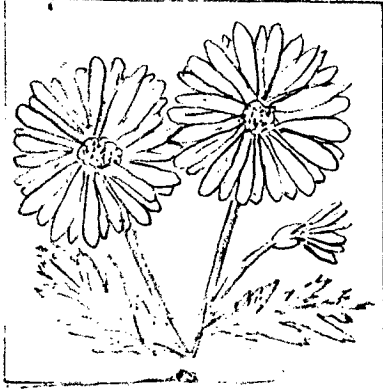
Simply give the Committee the name and address of the Memorial Gift or the Gift Honoree and the occasion and your DONATION CHECK. A special card announcing the donation will be mailed directly to the address you provide.

Flowers will fade and be forgotten, but a Memorial Gift to the Cemetery Endowment Fund will be a FOREVER reminder. Gifts for birthdays, graduation, or anniversary might be duplicated, but a gift IN HONOR of someone will be long remembered and appreciated.

REMEMBER, WHEN YOU CARE ENOUGH, SEND A PERMANENT GIFT

The Donation Record book is being prepared with title pages for the permanent transcription of the names of persons who make donations to the Cemetery Endowment Fund. We expect it to be on display in the Old Jail Headquarters during the "Show Time" at the Fourth of July Celebrations.

The Garden Page by Flora Greensleeves



PAINTED DAISY (*Chrysanthemum coccineum*)
Pyrethrum Persian Dissy
Persian Insect Flower

The pyrethrum, or painted daisy, was introduced into cultivation from the Caucasus in the early 1800's. Paxton's Botanical Dictionary, generally considered an authority on plant introduction, gives the date as 1826, but other writers have suggested earlier dates. In any event, the plant did not attract much attention at first. If illustrations of the period are accurate, the flower consisted of a large center surrounded by short red petals, nearly hidden by foliage. Improvements were begun by a Belgian florist and continued by the English nurseryman John Salter who bred the flower to larger sizes and developed double forms. By 1871 when Sullivan's Handbook of Hardy and Herbaceous Plants was published, the painted daisy was considered a prime florist's flower and more than fifty varieties were on the market.

Today the painted daisy is still grown commercially for cut flowers, but plants are seldom found in garden shops and at best only a few varieties are available from seed suppliers. Yet this old-fashioned plant with its finely cut foliage and colorful flowers in shades of white, lilac and crimson is ideal for the low-maintenance perennial bed. According to a turn-of-the-century garden manual, its only major requirement is well-drained soil. Painted daisies were a particular favorite of Miss Annie May Woodside (a lifelong resident of Southport who died at 89 years of age) who remembered them from her Grandmother Clemmons' garden

These plants belong to the composite family and are now classified as a species of chrysanthemum. They were formerly placed in a group of their own called pyrethrum, a name which remains in common usage. The word comes from the Greek pyr meaning fire because, it is said, the roots are very hot to the taste. The painted daisy is one of several closely related flowers used to manufacture a powerful natural insecticide sold as Pyrethrum or Persian Insect Powder.

NOTE: Our special thanks to Mrs. Emily Jo Buck of Supply, N. C. who has given us a clump of Persian Daisies for our Benjamin Smith Memorial Garden.



WISTERIA (also Wistaria)

"A sight of sights is the wisteria in full bloom," says a 1917 garden book, echoing the sentiments of countless gardeners and plant lovers. The elegant wisteria is actually a member of the bean family, Leguminosae, and was named in honor of Dr. Wistar (1761-1818), a distinguished physician who was noted for his interest in botany.

The first wisteria grown in our gardens was W. frutescens, a native American species introduced into cultivation by the naturalist Mark Catesby in 1724 as the "Carolina Kidney Bean". The flowers are only about 5 inches long, appearing in early spring. Widely grown in 18th century gardens, it was quickly replaced by a more spectacular oriental species.

Europeans first learned of the Chinese wisteria, W. sinensis, in 1723, but it was almost a century before the plant was seen outside its native land. An English merchant named John Reaves found the plant in a Canton garden and arranged to have it propagated for export. The first specimens reached England in 1816, consigned to Charles Hampden Turner of Surry who received a Royal Horticultural Society award for his efforts. Another specimen was planted in the Society's gardens at Kew where it soon grew to an impressive size. The

THE GARDEN PAGE, CONTINUED.

Botanical Register for 1840 that the vine then covered about 1800 square feet and had produced 675,000 flowers the previous spring! According to a recent visitor, it is still thriving. In the Southport area this species typically blooms in mid-April, with long racemes of lavender flowers that open all at once before the leaves appear.

The wisteria known for its fragrance is W. floribunda, a native of Japan. Its flowers develop along with the leaves and open progressively from base to tip. While the first specimens arrived in Europe in 1830, the plant did not reach the United States until 1862, and the first flowering occurring about ten years later. The Japanese had, of course, cultivated the plant for many centuries. Many of the plants called Chinese wisteria are actually W. formosa, a hybrid of the Chinese and Japanese species which originated about 1905. Its large blooms are fragrant and open all at once, combining the best characteristics of each parent.

Traditionally, there are two ways of growing wisteria. In the informal style, the plant is allowed to climb and twine at will, creating a sumptuous wild look that was pleasing to many Victorian gardeners. Wisteria is undeniably beautiful woven among tree branches, but unfortunately it will in time smother even the largest tree. It should be trained instead to climb on trellises, fences, porches or walls. Another appropriate style is the "tree" or "standard" form created by staking the vine into an upright position and pruning rigorously until the plant grows to resemble a small tree with weeping branches. While an established wisteria blooms reliably with no special care, a newly set plant, takes from 2 to 10 years to produce its first flowers. Some gardeners are able to hurry the process a little by a combination of root and top pruning and feeding with superphosphate. Nevertheless, all wisterias will bloom eventually and their spectacular springtime display is well worth the wait.

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If you have not already done so, be sure to drop by the Old Jail and look at our imposing new sign as well as the flowers and shrubs that are blooming in our Benjamin Smith Memorial Garden. And the Old Jail itself has been "spruced up" through the efforts of Frances and Ed Allen and their helpers. Many thanks to all of you, even though your name is not mentioned.

Genealogy Committee

Application for Pioneer or Century Family Certificate

ELIGIBILITY:

For a PIONEER FAMILY CERTIFICATE, applicant must be directly descended from an ancestor who settled in North Carolina by 1787.

For a CENTURY FAMILY CERTIFICATE, applicant must be directly descended from an ancestor who settled in Brunswick County, North Carolina 100 or more years ago.

Applicant must be able to prove descent from an ancestor by an official record, but applicant need not presently live in North Carolina. Proof furnished will be verified by the Southport Historical Society personnel from referenced data and records before a certificate is issued.

INSTRUCTIONS:

To the best of your ability, please complete the pedigree chart on the back of this form and the questionnaire below. Use extra sheets of paper to include, when known, names of all children in all generations in the direct descent, and who they married, down to and including your own family. If you have two or more pioneer family ancestors, please complete a separate questionnaire on each. A certificate may include more than one ancestor, at no extra cost.

The data you furnish will be a valuable addition to the history of Brunswick County and of North Carolina. It will be a source of information to members of your family for years to come. We will maintain an index to the Pioneer Families to be published in the future.

Southport Historical Society, Genealogy Committee does not seek to make a profit, but we must meet expenses; therefore, we ask that you enclose a check, made payable to SHS, Gen. Committee, for \$2.50, with this application and the family sheets. Mail to SHS, Genealogy Committee, 501 N. Atlantic Ave., Southport, NC 28461. If you would like to make your check for \$8.00 (or more), then any amount over \$1.00 will be deposited in the Southport Historical Society, Cemetery Endowment Fund.

Name of applicant (as it is to appear on the certificate)

Address: _____ Zip _____

Name of Pioneer or Century Ancestor _____

date born _____ where _____ died _____ where _____

where buried _____ date married _____ where _____

name of spouse _____ date born _____

where _____ died _____ where _____ buried at _____

date proven in Brunswick County, and North Carolina _____

record used as proof: _____

Acceptable sources of proof are: *Census Records, Land or Court Records, Tax or Jury Rolls, County Histories, Church or School Records, Birth-Marriage-Death Vital Records, Private papers that are contemporary with the event (i.e. diaries, letters, Bibles).*

Federal census data must include dwelling house and family numbers as given in the census records. Land or Court Records must include a Xeroxed copy of the record and notation giving location of original. Tax or Jury Rolls must include a Xeroxed copy and notation of location of original. County Histories must include a Xeroxed copy of the title page and copy of page of information. Church or School Record if published, must include Xeroxed copy of title page and page of information, or certification from pastor or principal in charge of unpublished records. Birth-Marriage-Death Vital Records must include xeroxed copy of record. Private records should be copied and certified as to exact copy of record. Photo of grave marker and cemetery location is acceptable.

CHILDREN of Pioneer Ancestor:

Name	Born	Where	Died	Where	Date Married	Spouse

List any additional children on a separate sheet. Include additional information such as Military Service, other wives, other husbands, other places of residence, etc. on separate sheet

KEY TO SYMBOLS

B. = Date and place born
 D. = Date and place died
 M. = Date and place married

Parents

Grandparents

Great Grandparents

Great, Great Grandparents

Father's name in full

B.

D.

M.

Name of Father's Father

B.

D.

M.

Maiden name of Father's Mother

B.

D.

Maiden name of Mother

B.

D.

Name of Mother's Father

B.

D.

M.

Maiden name of Mother's Mother

B.

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B.

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Name of applicant as it is to appear on Certificate

Address:

Married to:

date and place:

CHILDREN OF APPLICANT

"SOUTHPORT: POGIES, PILOTS, AND SHRIMP "

THE FOLLOWING PHOTO CONCERNING SOUTHPORT WAS TAKEN FROM THE "WATERLINE", THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA MARITIME MUSEUM.



Jerry Heiser, exhibits curator, completing the installation of the latest historic maritime communities exhibit, "Southport: Pogies, Pilots, and Shrimp."

NORTH CAROLINA LITERARY AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

109 EAST JONES STREET
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
27611

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I would like to become a member of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association in the following classification:

- Annual.....\$ 20.00
- Annual for two members of same family at same address..... 25.00
- Sustaining..... 50.00
- Life..... 250.00
- Corporate..... 150.00
- Student..... 10.00

Please check one of the following:

- I would like to receive the HISTORICAL REVIEW and CAROLINA COMMENTS.

Annual bills are sent.

Please enclose check for amount indicated.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____