



### Taking "1913" on the road

We're taking our production of "1913: The Way It Was A Hundred Years Ago" on the road. This picture was taken of Connie Johnson and Ken Bateman portraying "Mr. and Mrs. Johnston County Farmer" at a presentation June 12 to a large gathering of Pine Level seniors. Upcoming "bookings" for the show (first presented at our annual dinner back in January) include a performance open to the public during a noontime meeting of the "Joy Connection" at Smithfield's First Presbyterian Church on Thursday, Sept. 5.

### Heritage Center receives Town of Selma minutes

The Town of Selma has "deposited" into the Heritage Center's archives microfilmed copies of town board and council minutes dating back to 1913.

Town officials approached the center about housing the records since Selma's town hall lacks a microfilm reading machine.

The Selma minutes extend from 1913 through 2012, with three years missing: 1924-1926. The microfilms are duplicates of records kept by State Archives in Raleigh.

The Selma minutes are accessible during the Heritage Center's normal operating hours of 9-5 Monday-Saturday. Photocopies may be made of the records for 25 cents per printed page – the standard charge for copying any of our microfilmed archives.

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## Johnston County Heritage Center

# Update

Vol. 11, No. 4

Summer 2013



## Our exhibits extended to the Public Library

Thanks to a collaboration of neighboring agencies and an unexpected memorial donation, the Heritage Center has established what we hope will be permanent exhibit space in the main entrance hall of the Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield across the street from our place.

A project initiated by Julia McCullers and Ann Huckenbeck of our Heritage Commission, the idea came to life when Library officials embraced it and the nearby Ava Gardner Museum offered a couple of surplus display cases.

The Heritage Center was able to complement the setup when the Heritage Commission agreed to use

part of a recent memorial donation from Don and Linda Lassiter to purchase two large, upright display cases (their donation is in memory of long-time educators James and Sarah Batten).

The first display to occupy the newly established space at the Library is an extension of our current exhibit on "1913: The Way It Was A Hundred Years Ago."

Next is a display put together by Jim and Kim Williams of Eastern Carolina Taxidermy featuring skulls and skins of small animals found in the "wilds" of our region (pictured on the right). A complementary exhibit of animals provided by the taxidermists is planned for the Heritage Center.



### Junior Leadership youth taste genealogy

A group of Johnston County rising high-school juniors visited the Heritage Center in June during a week-long course under the banner of "Junior Leadership Johnston."

During their visit, staff genealogist Sandra Broome introduced them to basic principles of genealogy research and gave each one an "ancestry chart" to encourage them to get started unearthing their family roots.

The Junior Leadership project is an annual undertaking organized by the Johnston County Education Foundation, Johnston County Schools, and Johnston Community College.



## YOUR DIRECTOR REPORTING...

Sandra Broome, staff genealogist in our reading room Wednesdays and Thursdays the past several years, has taken leave to undergo hip-replacement surgery and recovery.

Taking her place is Phoebe Landfried, a reading-room volunteer who has been working with Chief Genealogist Becky Owens the past three years. Phoebe grew up in the Atlanta area, lived in Germany and Oklahoma while her former husband was in military service, then settled in North Carolina in 1994.

She said her interest in genealogy was stirred by the TV show "Who Do You Think You Are?"

### Searchable 1940 Census online soon

Heritage Center staffers have completed data entry for a searchable Johnston County 1940 Census data-

base should "go live" on our Website before summer's end. Although Ancestry.com has had the entire 1940 U.S. Census "indexed" for some time now, ours should prove to be more accurate, especially when it comes to the correct spelling of Johnstonians' unique names.

### Ghost Walk set for October 24

Our ninth annual Historical Ghost Walk through Smithfield's Riverside Cemetery is set for Thursday evening, Oct. 24. Heritage Commission members have already selected this year's "characters" and are working on scripts telling their stories.

### Annual dinner moved to March 11

The Heritage Commission has decided to move our annual Contributing Patrons Appreciation Dinner from the third Thursday in January to the second Tuesday in March – primarily to avoid the threat of wintry weather. Next year's date is March 11.

– Wingate Lassiter



Phoebe Landfried is staff genealogist currently on duty in our reading room Wednesdays and Thursdays.

## RECENT MATERIAL DONATIONS TO THE HERITAGE CENTER

Here's a list of material donations added to the Heritage Center archives April-May-June 2013:

- Yearbooks: Smithfield-Selma High School *Lacedaemon*, 1971-1973, 1975; Smithfield Junior High School *Shield*, 1971 – from Natasha Williams.
- Pair of dried grave-vine hangars for curing hams, kept by the late Rose Grantham Patterson – from Lena Parks.
- Personal scrapbook of Raymond Elsworth Moore, 1913-1989 (donor's father) – from Maxine Moore McFadyen.
- Scrapbooks of Alpha Beta Chapter (Johnston County), Delta Kappa Gamma (national teachers' sorority): 1972-1976, 1982-1986 – from Ramona Cash.
- Booklet: *A History of the Huguenot Society in North Carolina*, 2013 – from N. Larry Rozier.
- Yearbook: Corinth Holders High School *Corinthian*, 2013 (first graduating class since the new high school opened) – from Charles & Carmen Creech.
- Paul E. Johnson Jr.'s typewritten report of a mission flight in World War II's Pacific Theater near New Guinea, January 1943 – from Paul E. Johnson III.
- Smithfield High School reunion photos for four classes: 1958-1961, taken April 2013 – from Mary Nell Lee Ferguson.
- Kenly News obituaries: 2003-2007 – from Joan Howell.
- Newspaper & magazine articles about Ava Carol Creech, David Hooks, E.R. Patterson, William (Bill) Peacock, Dr. Roger A. Smith III; picture book: *Maysville, Kentucky* ("winter home" of local "tobaccomen"); and Smithfield High School Class of 1939 photo (reproduced on the right) – from Katherine Jolliff..

### HERITAGE CENTER BASICS

- The Johnston County Heritage Center is located at 241 East Market Street – in the heart of Downtown Smithfield.
- Our phone number: (919) 934-2836.
- Our mailing address: PO Box 2709, Smithfield, NC 27577
- Our Web address: [www.johnstonnc.com/heritage](http://www.johnstonnc.com/heritage)
- Our hours of operation: 9:00-5:00 MONDAY-SATURDAY

#### Heritage Commission

Belle Allen	Ann Huckenbeck
Art Andrews	Tanya Jones-Boland
Pearl Blackmon	Stanton Massengill
John Booker	Julia McCullers
Charles Creech	Claudia O'Hale
Carolyn Ennis	Helen Smith
Mary Nell Ferguson	Mary Stephens
Heather Ford	Vicky Temple-Rains
	Myra Wallace

## Julia McCullers honored for history-saving deeds

Julia McCullers of Smithfield got a big surprise when she arrived at the Heritage Center Saturday morning, June 29. She thought she was going to be making a presentation about "1913 – The Way It Was A Hundred Years Ago." Instead, she was greeted by a gathering of friends and admirers who applauded her as a new inductee into the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, one of North Carolina's highest civilian honors.

"Throughout her professional life, Julia Allen McCullers has been an advocate for education and for the preservation of history," proclaimed a nominating statement read by Ann Lee Huckenbeck, one of Julia's closest friends and a collaborator on several recent

projects regarding local history.

One of those signature projects was establishing a Smithfield High School museum inside the renovated A.G. Glenn Building, the school's former home now in use for offices of the Johnston County school system. "This was a three-year marathon of planning, collecting artifacts that had been discarded, organizing displays, and planning a grand opening attended by over 700 alumni of Smithfield High School," Mrs. Huckenbeck noted.

Mrs. McCullers also published a history of the school, which closed in 1969. As a member of the Johnston County Heritage Commission, Mrs. McCullers has helped "bring to life"



Julia Allen McCullers (left) receives the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award from Ann Huckenbeck.

several projects of the Heritage Center, including its annual Ghost Walk, the "1913" presentation, and several major exhibits.

In addition, she has produced several narratives about her own encounters with history, including her family's evacuating the U.S.

Navy base at Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962.

Many of her memories are included in a book, *Never Far From Home* – a compilation of columns she wrote for The Smithfield Herald for 20 years. (It's on sale at the Heritage Center.)



Can you put their names with their faces? Katherine Jolliff recently brought us this picture of the Smithfield High School Class of 1939. She can identify her father in the photograph, but not all the others. In our archives we have a list of that year's graduates, but we need help matching those names with the lineup of students in the picture.