

Chatham County Historical Association

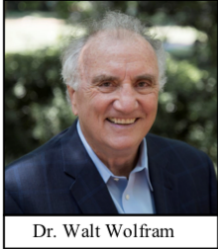
PO Box 93 · Pittsboro, NC 27312 · 919.542.6222 · chathamhistory.org



Volume 31, Issue 1

CCHA Newsletter

First Quarter, 2019



Dr. Walt Wolfram

The Chatham County Historical Association **Annual Membership Meeting** and Program was held Sunday, February 17, 2019. Successes from 2018 were noted, Officers and Directors were voted on and an enlightening program took place.

The program was **“Talking Black in America”**, a documentary and discussion about the most misunderstood language variety in the history of American English. Dr. Walt Wolfram, who directs the Language and Life Program at North Carolina State University, introduced the documentary and led the discussion afterward.

Grimsley Hobbs recapped 2018 successes and introduced the new members of the CCHA Board; Ruth Moose and Dan Sundberg. Officers for 2019 are: President Lee Sullivan, VP Grimsley Hobbs, Treasurer Lesley Richardson, Secretary Cindy Schmidt, Archivist Richard Szary, Past President Barbara Pugh, and returning Board members June Price, Kenneth Crabtree, Doug Berg, Charles Thomas, and Walter Harris. Welcome the new Board members when you see them!

JUNE 2nd First Sunday

Visit the Museum and bring your military picture for inclusion in the Valor Tribute. Twice a year the Valor Tribute display in the Museum is updated with pictures of Chathamites who have served or are serving in the US military. We'll scan the photo and give it back from noon to 2 pm.

For more information visit chathamhistory.org.

From the President, Lee Sullivan:

The Board held a Retreat to review our mission and

DNA PROGRAM ENLIGHTENS GENEALOGY RESEARCHERS

On Sunday afternoon, May 19, an intent group of genealogy researchers were most attentive to Ms. Ginger Smith representing her firm Your DNA Diva as she carefully took us through the role of new DNA research techniques and how to apply them to our needs.



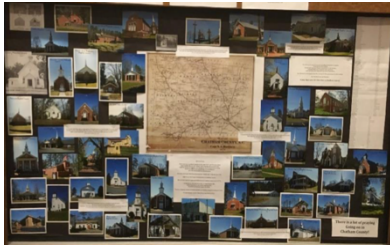
Ginger Smith

Her program entitled “Using DNA to Break Down Brick Walls” dealt with how to establish research goals and then find the right DNA test for you. She emphasized the importance of having an established paper trail before delving into the DNA testing. Ms. Smith provided a synopsis of the lecture. Should you desire a copy of the program handout, please contact history@chathamhistory.org. Leave your email address and we will forward a digital copy. It can also be viewed on our website www.chathamhistory.org.

make plans for the coming year to further that mission. First, we reviewed CCHA successes. The Smokehouse is complete and was on display at the AgFest March 30th, complete with ‘hams’ hanging inside! The Fourth Grade Field Trip is on its way to successfully completing a 6th year. The Museum toured over 3,000 visitors in 2018. Volunteers continue to respond to genealogy requests. Volunteers arranged for four well-attended historical programs. The Collection continues to be a wonderful place to collect and preserve history. The website is updated in a timely manner and Facebook continues to attract visitors. Volunteers continue to research Cemeteries in the County and update Cemeterycensus.com.

CCHA has many successes and we have our membership to thank for their support!

We had lots of wonderful ideas for the future, but agreed our priority is celebrating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the County on April 1, 2021. Though it seems a long time away, it will be here before we know it. If you have ideas, suggestions or would like to help with celebration planning or activities, please give us a call at 919-542-6222, contact one of the Board members, or send an email to history@chathamhistory.org. Thank you!



Current Exhibit (through July) The Churches of Chatham County

The current exhibit both in the hallway and the display case in the Museum are pictures of churches all around Chatham County with historical books and pamphlets about those churches. See it before it's gone!

Tod Edwards Exhibit will be at the Chatham Community Library for the Juneteeth Celebration!

Mr. Tod Edwards was born in Bynum about 1875 and moved to Siler City in 1895, where he was a jeweler. Go to the Chatham Community Library and peruse the exhibit the Library is borrowing to find out more about the man. The State magazine quoted: "I don't like to worry about anything. When you owe money you usually have to worry...And if you don't worry..then the man to whom you owe it usually does." Luan Harmeson curated the exhibit. The exhibit was on display at the Museum and is now on loan for the Library's Juneteeth Celebration.



Volunteer Appreciation Vino!! Wine Shop and S&T Soda Shop



Volunteers enjoyed a wine tasting at Vino!! Wine Shop and dinner at S&T Soda Shop the evening of April 11th. We celebrated Charles Thomas who has volunteered over 400 of the 2,100 hours volunteers gave in 2018, and Patty Walters, if not for her doing the Museum schedule-no one would show up, Luan Harmeson, who curates the wonderful displays shared with visitors, Margaret Tiano for leading the Fourth Grade Field Trips, and AJ Bracken, the high schooler who has given over

70 hours between September 2018 and February 2019! We all volunteer because we love history, the Museum, the people we volunteer with and the County. Join us!



Heather Johnson with the Board of Education

Dr. Derrick Jordan Congratulates Donors to the Fourth Grade Field Trip

At the May 13th Board of Education meeting, Dr. Jordan congratulated CCHA for holding the Fourth Grade Field Trip for the 6th year. He also recognized the donors who make it possible for every fourth grade student to participate without cost.

The donors for the 2018-2019 school year were:

Heather Johnson - Chatham Business Services, **Pam Herndon** - State Farm Ins., Cole Park, **The Town of Goldston** - Mayor Tim Cunnup, **South Chatham Lions Club** - Gary Leonard, **Chad Virgil** - Ed Jones Investments, **Susan & Bob Little**, **Sue & Rich Luke**, and **Patty Walters**. **Sgt. Delanie Warcup** - Pittsboro Police Dept. **Daphne Terry** - Chatham County Schools.

The volunteers that make each trip happen: Margaret Tiano, Dan & Cindy Perry, Charles Thomas, Cindy & Terry Schmidt, Patty Walters, Patti & John Liegl, Pat Stucke, Leona Whichard, Luan Harmeson, Karen Caudle, Connie McAdams, Gary Simpson, and Bonnie Ross.

New Horizons! Thank you for the Christmas Gift!

Main Street Pittsboro organized a Giving Night on December 6th. A Hillsboro Street shop selected a non-profit to partner with for that night. New Horizons, 52 Hillsboro St., Pittsboro, selected CCHA. 10% of sales that night at New Horizons came to CCHA as a Christmas present from the store. Shoppers who gathered Christmas presents from local shops not only kept their gift dollars local but also kept their giving dollars local.

Volunteer!

If you'd like to volunteer with any of these activities, let us know in an email to history@chathamhistory.org.

Chatham County Historical Association
www.chathamhistory.org
f Chatham Historical Museum
Office: 919-542-6222
Museum and Office: 9 Hillsboro Street, Pittsboro, NC
Open: Wed, Thurs, Fri 11-4 pm year round
First Sunday of the month, Mar – Dec, noon to 4:30