

# Chatham County Historical Association

PO Box 93 · Pittsboro, NC 27312 · 919.542.6222 · [chathamhistory.org](http://chathamhistory.org)



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CCHA Newsletter

Fourth Quarter, 2018



*The CCHA Board and Volunteers wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

## WWI—We Remembered

(Note: The WWI exhibit will be on display in the museum during until the end of December. Don't miss it!)



On 7 Dec 1941, Pearl Harbor was attacked. Among the hundreds of casualties was William Teasdale Durham, of Chatham County. Born 25 April 1919 to Edward Watson and Jennie Florence Herndon Durham, he enlisted in the US Navy on 5 March 1940 and reported aboard the USS Arizona on 30 Sep-

tember 1940.

William's remains were identified from his Pittsboro High School ring, which is among other artifacts recently donated to the Chatham Historical Museum by his family. Some of these items are now on display at the Chatham Historical Museum during the month of December. The Museum is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11:00am until 4:00pm, weather permitting. We follow the Chatham school closing policy--if schools are closed, the Museum will also be closed. You can also check our Facebook page **or call the museum at 919-542-6222.**

## Give the Gift of Chatham History!

Looking for a meaningful, unique gift for the holidays or a special occasion? CCHA can help!

Our Gift Shop offers a wide selection of books and pamphlets on local history and related topics, as well as other items commemorating aspects of Chatham's history. Gift memberships and donations to special projects, such as our Restore the Smokehouse effort, are gifts that make a difference!



Our items are available online from this website or at the Museum Gift Shop during museum hours. Some items also are available from our local supporters – New Horizons Downtown in Pittsboro and Twin Birch and Teasel in Siler City. **[Learn more here.](#)**

## Update on CCHA's cemetery project

CCHA's cemetery project has a couple of new additions. Our thanks to Clark Poe for showing us the previously unrecorded cemetery on his property in Baldwin Township. It is noted on deeds and plats and the "Old Mountain Field Cemetery," and contains about thirty graves marked with uninscribed fieldstones. Photos and info are now on CemeteryCensus.com: <http://cemeterycensus.com/nc/chat/cem604.htm>

Also thanks to new cemetery project volunteer Jim Leatherberry, who photographed the New Salem Baptist Church cemetery in Hadley Township. Many burials were added, as the previous inventory was completed decades ago. The updated information and photos are on CemeteryCensus.com: <http://cemeterycensus.com/nc/chat/cem075.htm>

We share news about CCHA events and projects as well as Chatham County history on our website (<http://chathamhistory.org>) and [Chatham Historical Museum](#) Facebook page.

## From the President

Holiday Greetings,

As 2018 draws to a close, I offer thanks to the many dedicated and good spirited members and volunteers that make up the CCHA. Our traditional programs have continued to flourish in 2018 and we are committed to improving and strengthening the CCHA in 2019. Please join with me in celebrating the CCHA and its role in improving and documenting the history of life in Chatham County.



I extend my best wishes to all of you for the holidays and the New Year.

Grimsley Hobbs, President

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CCHA Board members and volunteers had a busy fall!



## A recap of CCHA's Fall Events

A very interesting and well-attended program on North Carolina Voices kicked off a busy season for CCHA volunteers and members on October 7. Dr. Walt Wolfram entertained and educated with fascinating examples of North Carolina's diverse dialects and sayings.

The Museum was open for First Sunday and had quite a few visitors of its own. Volunteers shared Chatham history and CCHA's mission at the Goldston Old Fashioned Day Fair on October 13 and at the Pittsboro Street Fair on October 27. Many Pittsboro Fair visitors took advantage of the Chatham Historical Museum being open for the Fair. Museum reenactors mingled with the Street Fair crowd to let them know that the museum was open, while friendly and knowledgeable volunteers at the museum welcomed visitors, gave tours and answered questions.

At CCHA's annual fundraiser on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, volunteers cooked up a hearty country breakfast at the Pittsboro Kiwanis' building to raise funds to finish renovations of the mid-1800s smokehouse located on the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center property. Supporters enjoyed good food and got to visit with others who care about preserving Chatham's history.

The Museum was open for visitors on First Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and volunteers also hosted an opportunity for families to bring in photos of their Chatham veterans to be scanned and added to the Museum collection and Valor Exhibit in the Museum. A special exhibit up for the month of November highlighted Chatham County's WWI Experience.

CCHA also publicized the Bells of Peace Commemoration of the Centennial of the WWI Armistice in the county. On November 11, at 11:00am, the bells in the Chatham County Courthouse in Pittsboro were rung to recognize all who served and sacrificed in World War I.

**Time to JOIN or RENEW your Membership for 2019**

[Renew Online](#)

[Print a membership form](#)