Greetings from the NC Conference Commission of Archives and History and The Historical Society of the NC Conference

You have received a copy of this Newsletter because you are a member of the Historical Society, a member of the Commission, you are a District Superintendent or other leader in our Conference, or your church has entered your name in the online database as the local church historian. If there needs to be a correction in your address, please let us know at The NC Conference Archives, 700 Waterfield Ridge Place; Garner NC 27529 or archives-history@nccumc.org.

FALL MEETING OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY - OCTOBER 8, 2011

The fall meeting of the NC Historical Society and the Commission on Archives and History will be held Saturday, October 8, 2011 at 10:00am at the North Carolina Conference United Methodist Building in Garner, NC.

Church historians and interested persons are invited to attend. Lunch will be served.

Please call Robin Harry toll free at 800.849.4433 or 919.779.6115, ext. 252; or you may email at rharry@nccumc.org to reserve your spot for lunch.

We will begin with a business meeting of the Historical Society, followed by a tour of the Building and the Archives and History Room & explanation of projects; and then a catered lunch. There will be a Commission meeting in the afternoon.

Directions to The United Methodist Building, Garner NC

From the west: take exit 306 off I40 and follow 70 East toward Clayton. Take the first exit (Greenfield Parkway). Turn right at the top of the exit, then take the first right onto Waterfield Ridge Place. The Methodist Building is on the right.

From the east: take exit 306B off I40 and follow 70 East toward Clayton. Take the first exit (Greenfield Parkway). Turn right at the top of the exit, then take the first right onto Waterfield Ridge Place. The Methodist Building is on the right.

Thanks to Wesley Chapel UMC in Kenansville, for hosting our spring meeting.
The North Carolina Conference Historical Society was in existence as early as 1893. At that time all clergy were members of the society. In 1978, the Commission on Archives and History reorganized the Historical Society and opened its membership to anyone interested in the history of the United Methodist Church. The purposes included in the bylaws of the newly formed Society included: the collection and preservation of materials related to the history of the United Methodist; promotion of writing and historical research; training local church historians; and publicizing information and news.

At present time the NC Conference Historical Society meets twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall. Usually the meetings take place in a church or location within the NC Conference of interest, historically. Meetings may include speakers on historical topics of interest, information for local church historians to share in their own churches, fellowship and a meal.

SOCIETY MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL!!

For more information contact:
Mildred Swain
President of NCC Historical Society
259 Fairlane Rd.
Plymouth, NC 27962
mildswain@embarqmail.com

Support for Church Historians and others interested in church history is available through participation in the NC Conference Historical Society. Renew your membership today!

MEMBERSHIP IN THE N.C. CONFERENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dues are for a year and payable to: N.C. Conference (include: "Historical Society" on the memo line)

Mail to: Archives & History, 700 Waterfield Ridge Place, Garner NC 27529

________  Student  $3.00 ___________ Contributing  $25.00
________  Regular  $7.00 ___________ Life  $100.00
________  Patron  $10.00

Name:__________________________
Address:__________________________
City, State & Zip:____________________
Telephone:_____________________
Email:_____________________

YESTERDAY

The meeting of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society was held at Pine Mountain State Park in Pineville, Kentucky and was hosted by the Red Bird Missionary Conference, Tuesday, June 28 – Friday, July 1, 2011. The theme this year was, “Mission in the Heart of Appalachia.” There were 51 persons in attendance from around the Jurisdiction. There were six attending from North Carolina- Jean Lugar, Lawrence Lugar, John Mitchell, Vivian Mitchell, Arthur Warren and Becky Warren. This was a very interesting and spiritually uplifting event. At the opening business session, Dr. A. V. Huff, Chairperson - SEJ Commission on Archives and History, opened with prayer, welcome and introductions were offered, Mrs. Nancy Watkins, Director of the Heritage Center shared her report, and nominations were presented.

Rev. Bob Landis, a Retired Home Missionary who arrived at the Mission in 1962 and who now pastors local churches in Harlan County, gave the keynote address. His presentation was on the Beginnings of the Red Bird Mission, which began in 1921. The Mission celebrated its 90th anniversary on July 1, 2011. The school was established after the faithful prayers of several women in the area and the support of a women’s group of the Evangelical Church (a predecessor denomination of the Evangelical United Brethren Church). Rev. John DeWall made his way to the valley and worked in the mission to help start a school, hospital and churches. Many hardships and difficulties were faced by those early missionaries to the southern mountains of Kentucky. It was a fourteen-hour journey by horse and wagon and on foot over the mountain from the nearest railroad station in Pineville to the Mission in Beverly, KY.

We enjoyed ice cream and cake following the session at a nearby picnic area to celebrate the anniversary of the Mission and we traveled on school buses provided by the Red Bird Mission School.

The next two days gave us the opportunity to visit many places. Wednesday tours included the original site of the Red Bird Mission, Beverly UMC with devotion, the present Mission at Queendale Center, and Red Bird Mission School. On Thursday we visited the Henderson Settlement and the Hope United Methodist Church. We had morning devotion at the church, a presentation on the history of the Settlement by Mr. Jerry Lambdin during lunch and a presentation in the afternoon by Mr. Jim Hayes, a Bennett Center board member and former teacher at Sue Bennett College, on the Bennett Center. Our second business session was held at the church with annual Conference reports shared and the election of Mr. Bob George as our Treasurer and Rev. Roy Watkins as our Membership Coordinator.

Thursday evening we enjoyed our Banquet in the Ray Harm Room at Pine Mountain Lodge. Rev. Roy Howard presented an honorary membership to Robert Hilten of the Holston Conference and Rev. Art Swarthout presented an honorary membership to Ken Lyle of the Kentucky Conference. Dr. Steven O’Malley, Professor of Church History at Asbury Theological Seminary, presented a paper on “The Mission Program of the Evangelical United Brethren Church”. It was nice this year to have more emphasis on the history of the EUB and predecessor denominations.

Friday morning, we completed the business of the Society and shared in our closing worship service with Commission. The service was led by Rev. Chris Shoemaker, vice-president of the Society, Rev. Robert Amundsen, Jr., SEJ Commission on Archives and History member from KY and the Rev. Jamison J. Brunck provided the message in the absence of Bishop Lindsey Davis of the Louisville Area due to health issues.

We experienced wonderful fellowship and a great spirit among the people of Red Bird Mission with the leadership of Ms. Shirley Crouse and Ms. Phyllis Crouse. Our spirits were renewed and empowered from the events of the week. The stories of the faith shared among the missionaries, workers and volunteers that helped make the ministry at Red Bird Mission possible provided great inspiration for returning to our home communities equipped for faithful service in the Kingdom of God by his grace. Remember that you can order The Proceedings of our meeting with the minutes and articles presented for ten dollars from the Heritage Center.

I trust that you will now begin to make plans for next year’s meeting at the Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, TN, Monday, July 9 – Thursday, July 12, 2012. The theme will be, “The Church Confronts the World: 20th Century Southern Methodist and the Popular Culture”.

Thank you to everyone in attendance this year for making this a very special time in our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. May we all continue to go forth and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In His service,
W. Arthur Warren, Jr.
President SEJHIS

TODAY

In His service,
W. Arthur Warren, Jr.
President SEJHIS

Support for Church Historians and others interested in church history is available through participation in the NC Conference Historical Society. Renew your membership today!
The spring meeting for the North Carolina Conference Historical Society was hosted by Wesley Chapel UMC, Kenansville, NC with the meeting extending from May 4, 1922 to May 13, 2011. There were 25 persons in attendance, which included: Rev. Dennis Lamm, Ms. Maude Smith, John Mitchell, Vivian Mitchell, Jane Greeson, Laura Stalls, Donald Prout, Ruth Copley, Frank Young, Becky Warren, Rev. Arthur Warren, Harvey W. Powers, Fred Stalls, David Benton, Jane Benton, Sarah Wilson, Gerald Wilson, Marilyn K. Hoza, Myrlin Humphrey, Diane G. Frazeille, Nancy Grady Wilson. Snodie B. Wilson and Mildred S. Swain.

President Mildred Swain brought the meeting to order and gave a devotion. Minutes were approved from the last meeting, and the current balance in the treasury is $3,226.17.

Reverend Jack Benfield, a very faithful member of the Historical Society and the Commission, died November 8, 2010. He was serving as secretary of the NC Conference Commission on Archives and History at the time of his death. Our friend will be greatly missed by the North Carolina Conference and each of us individually.

Dennis Lamm, Chairperson of the Commission on Archives and History, shared an update on the move to the new Methodist Building and the importance of making church histories available. This is our heritage and a treasure to have pictures/documents. He stated, “you don’t have to be an author to write history. Just compile the facts. We need stories of our church history.” To illustrate the beauty of history, Rev. Lamm told of his hobby to collect stamps and letters. In his collection he has a letter dated 1832 written by a man to his bride-to-be. It begins, “Dear, I apologize for missing our wedding.” This was due to illness and the two would later be married. However, today, we can only imagine the feelings of this bride in 1832 as much time passed before she received this letter to explain the circumstances, much unlike today with the instantaneous communication we have at hand.

Rev. Lamm will start sending articles about our archives in Raleigh and any history of interest for our newsletter, Saddlebags, to promote membership in the Historical Society.

Dates for Annual Conference this year are June 15-18 in Raleigh. Dates for the SEJ Historical Society are June 28-July 1 in Pineview, Kentucky.

Rev. Arthur Warren, SEJ President, shared memories of the Historical Society of the North Carolina Conference and the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Pat Bailey from Graham, NC had sent a letter explaining her absence this day and handmade cards for the group which he delivered. Rev. Warren reminded everyone of the workshop that is planned for November 11-13 at Lake Junaluska, NC for church historians or anyone interested in history.

Mr. Smoile Wilson and wife, Nancy, member of the church for 59 years, shared the church history with a DVD presentation and oral history. Wesley Chapel UMC was established in 1815 and built in 1844. The meeting was closed with prayer and a blessing before we gathered for a bountiful lunch provided at the church.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Warren, Secretary

DECEASED CLERGY AND SPOUSES
CLERGY
Angus M. Cameron
February 17, 1926 – December 12, 2010
Husband of Catherine Cameron

George Franklin Blanchard
February 27, 1902 – April 11, 2011
Husband of Lillian Blanchard

Argel Harold Payne
March 13, 1926 – May 1, 2011
Husband of Callie Payne

W. Raymond Peele, Jr.
November 3, 1935 – April 5, 2011
Husband of Callie Peele

Lonnie D. Hedrick
August 27, 1943 – May 9, 2011
Husband of Claudette Miller Hedrick

Jefferson W. Davis
December 2, 1918 – July 18, 2011
Husband of Jean E. Davis

Joseph Kent Bostick, Sr.
April 14, 1922 – August 16, 2011
Husband of Julia Geiger Bostick

SPOUSES
Bernice Salter Lupton
December 17, 1940 – March 2, 2011
Widow of John Clifton Lupton, Jr.

Dorothy Sparrow
March 26, 1920 – March 30, 2011
Widow of Leon Ray Sparrow

Iva Ella Wright
October 26, 1914 – May 7, 2011
Widow of Carl K. Wright

Mary Jacqueline Chrismon
July 1, 1923 – June 8, 2011
Widow of Harold M. Chrismon, Sr.

Patricia Smith Owen
August 14, 1933 – August 9, 2011
Widow of J. Malloy Owen, III

Robert Williams was the founder of Jerusalem United Methodist Church (1773) His preaching place on the Brunswick Circuit (26 places) was beneath a centuries old oak that stood until 2007 near the Jerusalem UMC Cemetery. Homecoming crowds still gather around the giant tree trunk (26 feet around). It is known as the Robert Williams Gospel Oak.

Danny Mills, a woodcarver from Wake Forest, carved the figure of a horse and circuit rider from the wood of this historic tree. This is a picture of Danny and the carving, not yet mounted on an oak stump. Danny is a descendant of Daniel Yeargan, another 18th century circuit rider who followed in the tracks of Robert Williams. The carving was commissioned by Jerusalem United Methodist Church.