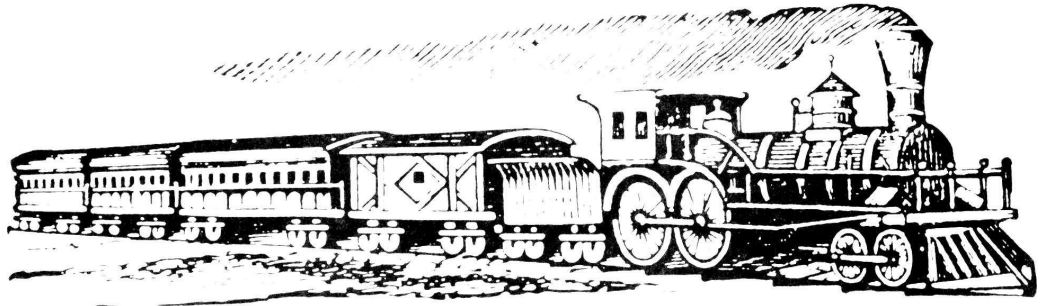


# The Dispatch

Apex Historical Society



The Newsletter of the Apex Historical Society

Apex, North Carolina

April/May/June 2019

## President's Message

Jeff Hastings, 2019-2020

Congratulations to our board returning for the 2019-2020 year as our Apex Historical Society is gaining full steam for the climb up the hill to all our wonderful Apex Spring and Summer Events. You will find them listed here in our newsletter. You too are invited to hop on board for volunteering fun with a purpose.

Join us at the Peaktique Antique Fair, our Annual Plant Sale at the Maynard Pearson House, Peak Fest downtown Apex and our Summer Sizzler Homemade Ice Cream Social. Yes our enthusiastic Board is ready to roll on down the tracks making and sharing Apex History as we go.



Thank you Larry Jordan for sharing your Apex memories at the Halle Center in February at our Pie & Preservation meeting. As you can see from the

photos we all enjoyed your talk and, later on, the pies as we socialized with many friends.

Our annual Pot Luck bar-b-que election of officers meeting was held on March 21st and the board members all happily said yes to staying as a group to work for the Society.

We just keep rolling along.



## Peak-Tique Festival



The third annual **Apex PEAK-TIQUE Antiques and Collectibles Festival**, April 5th, 6th & 7th, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, (until 4:00 PM on Sunday, the 7th). The Peak-Tique location is at Norris Park, 3458 Apex Peakway, a half mile around the curve from Wal Mart on the right along Apex Peakway. Attendance for visitors is \$5.00.

The event is being organized and managed jointly by the Apex Downtown Business Association (ADBA), the Apex Historical Society (AHS) and the Town of Apex. The ADBA and AHS are both non-profit organizations.

Call Dianne Long at 919 362-8097 to volunteer.

## 39th Annual Apex PeakFest



PeakFest will be held the first Saturday in May, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, on and about Salem Street in historic downtown Apex. Volunteers are needed to man a Historical Society booth. Contact Dianne Long to offer your assistance.

## Annual Plant sale at the Maynard Pearson House Saturday following Peak Fest



Saturday May 11, 2019 from 7:30 AM to 1:00PM rain or shine

Join us to buy or sell plants. Diane Long needs your help in this fundraiser. Bring your donated potted plants marked with their name marked to the Maynard Pearson House on 1101 Olive

Chapel Rd the week of May 5th. Put plants near the back porch. Call Diane at 919-362-8097 to help.

## Looking for Maynard-Pearson House 'Friends of the Garden'



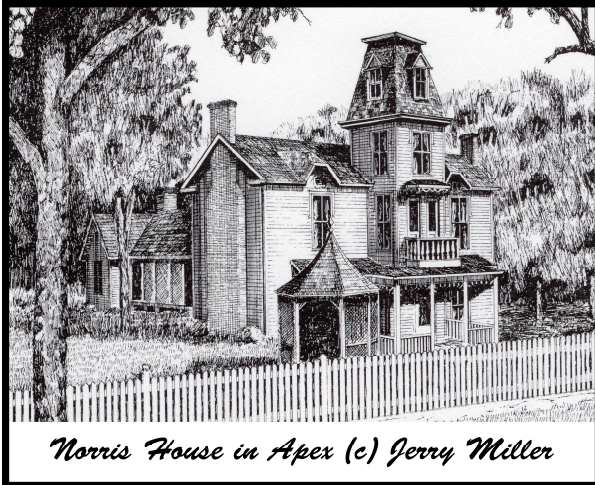
If you are interested in helping to maintain the garden during the summer months, please leave Diane Long a message on her phone at 919 362-8987.

## The Old Norris House in Apex

A member asked "Where was the Norris House?"



The Ellington-Norris House was built @1860 by John McC Ellington and sold around 1880 to Jessie A Norris, a turpentine and lumber businessman. It was located near the Apex Methodist Church on South Elm Street, between Chatham and Moore Streets. Mr Norris added the gothic two story front part of



*Norris House in Apex (c) Jerry Miller*

the house to the simple one story farmhouse.

Maude and Maybelle Norris, whom Larry Jordan mentioned in his talk at the Halle in February, lived in this house. The sisters sold milk and eggs to the town folks through the 1950's.

The house was demolished in the 1970's as a fire drill demonstration.

In their book *Pluck, Perseverance and Paint*, the Holleman brothers, Toby and Warren, noted that the author Julia Montgomery Street lived here as a child with her aunts Maude and Maybelle Norris.\*

\*More Apex History can be enjoyed in the book *Pluck, Perseverance and Paint* by C P Toby Holleman and Warren Lee Holleman Halcyon Press sold locally at The Rusty Bucket on Salem Street.

\*The Jerry Miller drawing of the Norris House was part of a collection of notecards of Apex houses that the Historical Society sold in the 1980's with permission from the artist. His work can be viewed at [jerrymillerart.com](http://jerrymillerart.com).

## Historical Society Members Invited to Capital Area Preservation Annual Event



The Wake County Historic Preservation Commission  
and  
The Board of Directors of Capital Area Preservation, Inc.  
cordially invite you to join us for our  
Wake County Preservation Celebration  
on Sunday, the twenty-eighth of April  
from three until five o'clock in the afternoon

Leslie-Alford-Mims House  
100 Avent Ferry Road  
Holly Springs, North Carolina

RSVP  
(919) 833-6404

The Wake County Historic Preservation Commission and the Board of Directors of the Capital Area Preservation, Inc., has invited members of the Apex Historical Society to join them in their annual Wake County Preservation Celebration being held Sunday, April 28th, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Leslie Alford Mims House at 100 Avent Ferry Road in Holly Springs, NC. Light refreshments will be served.



Leslie / Alford / Mims House

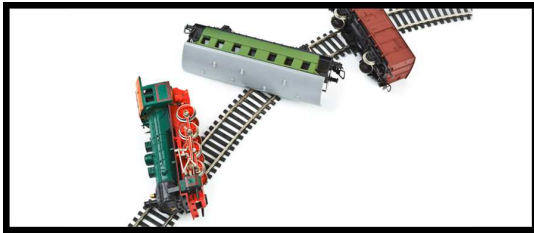
There is no charge for this event, but reservations are requested. Please call 919 833-6404 to RSVP.

**AHS 2019-20 Board Members:**

Jeff Hastings ..... AHS Board President  
Jeremy Bradham AHS Board Vice President  
Erin Thompson .... AHS Board Co-Secretary  
Diane Long ..... AHS Board Co-Secretary  
John Messler ..... AHS Board Treasurer  
Heather Werking ..... AHS Board Member  
Jan Brooks ... AHS Board Member Emeritus  
John Pearson ..... AHS Board member

***Our Apologies to the Westons*****We Got Derailed :-)**

Our Historical Society missed saying a big thank you to our charter members Noel and Molly Weston for their gifts from last April. We were asked to help with their estate sale. Funds from the entrance fee were generously given to our Society along with other family possessions including a mantle clock.



So sorry for this delay. Without a newsletter last year, we just didn't communicate our sincere thanks to you. Hopefully we are back on track and catching up in sharing good news to our members.

As many of you know Molly and Noel are charter members of our Society.

- Molly helped create and write our Home Tour brochures for many years.
- She also was editor and writer for our Newsletter, The Dispatch.
- She created the format for collecting our stories from senior members.
- She was on our board for many years and finished out Jan Brooks' term as President in 1995-1996 when Jan's husband passed away unexpectedly.

- Molly has been a driving force in bringing members to our group.
- She attended Apex schools and was on the Apex High School 50th anniversary board that created a memory booklet for the Class of 1963. (This treasure can still be found online for all to enjoy.)
- As a native of Apex, Molly has always willingly helped our society.
- Because of her active and enthusiastic engagement, she received the Billie Duncan Preservationist of the Year Award.

We are thankful for members that are so dedicated to our mission.

We send out a big shout out to the Westons saying Thank You from all our Historical Society friends.

***AHS Calendar for 2019***

Currently, AHS hosts and/or participates in several events throughout the year, including:

April 5th, 6th, & 7th 2019: volunteers at the Apex Peaktique Antiques Festival

May 4th, 2019: booth at the Apex Peakfest

May 11th, 2019: AHS Annual Plant Sale Fundraiser, Maynard Pearson House, 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

July 2019: AHS Annual Membership Ice Cream Social with homemade ice cream

Also, the AHS Board meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Maynard-Pearson House; meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

To all of our members, thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you throughout the year!

Please feel free to send any additional ideas regarding how AHS can reach additional members and continue to preserve, protect and promote the history of Apex to Erin Thompson at [erin.thompson@hotmail.com](mailto:erin.thompson@hotmail.com).