

The Dispatch

The Newsletter of the Apex Historical Society Apex, North Carolina

January, 2011

2010 AHS Home Tour

The houses on tour this year, in addition to the Maynard Pearson House and the Apex Chamber of Commerce at the Depot were the homes of:

Gene and Wendy Allen (Tillerson-Allen House) 304 W. Chatham Street

Doug and Cherie Gibson (Bayard and Ruth Pearson House)
1012 North Salem Street

Nancy Stolfo-Corti (Stolfo-Corti House)
1011 North Salem Street

Bill Cotton (Seagroves Farm)
1617 Center Street

The Tillerson-Allen House had the entire roof removed so that a second story could be added. It was originally a 1954 craftsman style ranch house. The Bayard and Ruth Pearson House was built in 1911 and was used as a Tourist Home to accommodate travelers passing through. The Gibsons are planning to open their home as a Bed and Breakfast in 2011. The Stolfo-Corti House was built in 1912. The light fixtures are made from hand blown glass from Venice, the mantels are made from tiger oak and the heart pine floors have been restored to their original beauty. John Henry Seagroves, a tenant farmer, bought the Seagroves Farm (92 acres) for \$540 in 1904. Bill Cotton purchased this property in 2007 and restored the Seagroves House to be used as an office.

The weather on the day of the tour was cold and blustery. The hot cider offered at the Maynard Pearson House was welcoming to

many who toured the homes that day. The Boy Scouts lent a helping hand by overseeing the parking and escorting guests into the MPH. The front door of the MPH was spectacular as it was decorated by Rhonda Magee, CEO and Interior Designer from Southern-Charmz Interiors, who appeared on Good Morning America. All of the mantels in the house were decorated with natural vines including magnolias, holly, pine, cedar and ivy by Diane Long. They looked awesome and very appropriate for an "old fashioned" Christmas. I heard comments from many that the interior of the MPH never looked better. Congratulations and thanks go out to all that participated in decorating and contributing items for display. Karen Wickes was dressed in one of her period pieces and strolled around the house and engaged in conversation with our guests. She made quite an impression with her knowledge of the MPH and was one of the highlights of the tour.

We wish to thank the homeowners who welcomed us into their homes, to all our members who were so willing to help and to the hosts, Sweet Shoppe and reception helpers who gave so freely of their time. Without their participation, our home tour would not have been possible. Thanks again for a successful fund raiser.

New Members Needed for the Maynard-Pearson Trust

Are you looking for a way to be involved with the Apex Historical Society or the Maynard-Pearson House? If so, the Maynard-Pearson Trust is in need of three new members. Many thanks to John Pearson, Ron Ragland and Shirley Fiorentino for their many years of service to both the Society and the Trust. If you are interested in working with a historical home and caring for it, please consider joining the Trust.

Thank you Candy Makers!

A great big thank you goes out to the following members who made our Sweet Shoppe at the Home Tour such a success this year. With all of your delectable donations to sell, we were able to meet lots of new friends and satisfy many a sweet tooth!

Hope Blackford
DiAne Benzie
Shirley Fiorentino
Mary Sue Lane
Diane Long
Gwen Nyce
Dave Nyce
Mary Petersen
LaVerne Seagrove

Apex Historical Society Note Cards are available for purchase!

Please consider either purchasing or selling a pack of our wonderful note cards. The cards come in packages of 10 for \$12 and feature historic homes around Apex including the Maynard-Pearson House and the Depot. They are a great gift for someone who may have visited our lovely town or for a resident who believes in preserving our town's history. The artwork was created by Brenda Priest - many thanks for donating her talents to this fundraiser! Mary Sue Lane has been actively promoting and selling these note cards and she requests that all members help us in this fundraiser for the Society. Cards can be purchased in downtown Apex at the Rusty Bucket.

Upcoming Events

The following events are scheduled for early 2011 and we would love for you to join us and other AHS members for some great food and fellowship.

The Soup and Pie Supper will be held on Thursday, January 20th, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the Maynard-Pearson House. This is always a fun event where members make and bring their best soup and pie recipes to share. Please let a board member know if you are willing to bring a pot of soup or a pie to this year's supper. We will be calling for soup donations in the next week!

The AHS Annual Membership Meeting will be held on March 17th, 2011 at the Maynard-Pearson House. There will be a pot luck dinner at 6:30 PM followed at 7:00 PM by a brief meeting and the election of new board members and officers. If you are interested in joining the board please contact AHS Secretary Mary Petersen (363-4817) as there are some positions open. Our gratitude goes to John Pearson, our departing Vice President, who is leaving the board after many years of service.

Work Day at the Maynard-Pearson House (MPH) will be held in the Spring. We will be working in the yard and also cleaning the inside of the house. The inside of the MPH requires a lot of work to keep clean and we would love to have a group of individuals who would be willing to help clean on a regular basis (every few months). For this next work day, please consider donating some of your time to maintain the charm and appearance of the Maynard-Pearson House. The date of the work day will be decided soon!

Maintenance of the Maynard-Pearson House

As you all know, funds for maintaining the Maynard-Pearson House (MPH) are earned in part from our annual Home Tour. At this time we are in need of some monetary donations to help with the upkeep of the structure and its grounds. In particular, we would like to work on the appearance of the yard, but need funds in order to do so. There are also sections of

the house's structure that need to be fixed. Please consider a donation to the Apex Historical Society to help us maintain the house and grounds, and to preserve its presence as a site that reflects the charm of Apex.

Mark Your Calendars!

The Holleman brothers, Toby and Warren, will be back in town on Tuesday, January 25th at 7 PM, for a second presentation as part of the Society's Speaker Series. Anyone who attended their first presentation in November knows that this is an event that should not be missed! This time they will be discussing the mechanics of writing their well-received publication "Pluck, Perseverance, and Paint." The event is free and will be held at the Halle Cultural Arts Center in downtown Apex.

Dues are Soon Due!

Tradition holds that dues for the Apex Historical Society are due in March to coincide with the Annual Membership Meeting. For your convenience we have attached an invoice to this issue of the Dispatch. Please fill out your current contact information including your email address so we can update our membership lists. You will see the membership costs also listed on the invoice. We will be collecting dues for 2011 at the March meeting or you can mail them to the AHS at:

Apex Historical Society
P.O. Box 506
Apex, NC 27502

Would you like to be on the AHS e-mail list?

Yes No

Your e-mail address: _____

Class of Membership:

\$10 Seniors (70+)

\$15 Individual

\$25 Family

\$35 Contributing

\$ 50 Sustaining

\$100 (or more) Patron

Make checks payable to:

Apex Historical Society

Mail to:

Apex Historical Society
PO Box 506
Apex, NC 27502