



Editor's Note: Since the passing of my husband, James Ezekiel "Zeke" Anderson on July 5, we, the family, have been overwhelmed and under-girded by the kindnesses of the community and wish to make a public acknowledgment of our appreciation. Zeke was never one to seek social or political favor but was always responsive to well-wishes. It has truly been said that in times of trouble the people of Caswell would rally around. If one of the reasons for this is that many of the families are related either by blood or marriage, surely promoting interest in preserving family histories is a very good thing. Remember while we were working on putting our HERITAGE OF CASWELL COUNTY together, Katmarie Kerr Kendall remarked "Zeke, your situation is just like mine. We're related by blood or marriage to at least half the people in Caswell County ." Then she added quickly, "I'll have to take out the part about my marriage-- I meant other people's marriages." She laughed and looked at me. Nobody said anything. We were so lucky to have her help with our book, and how we miss her!

So I thought I'd see how many people in the HERITAGE were related to us and here it is: Anderson, Aldridge, Murray, Mitchell, Ector, Bird, Hightower, Gant, Ervin, Thatch, Walker, Simpson, Graves, Rice, Covington, Gwyn, Fulghum, Blackwell, Garratt, Butler, Turner, Jones, Leslie, Slade, Tabor, Harrelson, Hatchett, Graves, Yancey, Harrisch, Satterwhite, Lanier, Hodges, Bailey, Watlington, Fowlkes, Dameron, Johnston, Taylor, Williams, Rochelle, Lynch, Temple, Watkins, Fox, Musselman, Paxton, Sharp, Chandler, Powell, Hubbard, Bradner, Hendrick, Edwards, Crumpton, McDain, McAden, Cobb, Nethery, White, Allison, Daniel, Chaney, Robinson, Crowder, Page, Haynes, Stokes, Price, Vincent, Sullivan, Richmond, McCrary, Roberts, Jackson, Ross, Smith, Norman, Townes, Woods, Foster, Henderson, Wilson, Stokes, Lacy, Miles, Talbert, Simmons, McComas, Potest, Whitaker, Defroete, Bason, Ware, Payne, Kerr, Lea, Gomer, Reade, Peterson, Blanks, Scarce, Royster, Herndon, Hancock, Souders, Edmond, McDonald, Lunsford, Bibee, Hall, Ramsey, Hazelwood, Brooks, Phelps, Lewis, Pearson, Chicky, Grinstead, Young, Reagan, Bradner, Gribble, Neighbors, Rowland, Trainor, Young, Rogers, Vaughn, Clark, Edgerton, Crews, Fendleton, Williamson, Stokes, McDaniel, Rice, Yarborough, Kannon, Florence, Christopher, Barton, McCrary, Johnson, Johns, Thomason, Lindsey, Tapscott, Harris, Currie, Gunn, Shaw, Dertch, Malaney, Lord, Craft, Duckett, Webster, Gregory, et al.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

When the neighborhood is around the Town Square in Yanceyville, it can be quite exciting. The last several years since the Old Courthouse Restoration Project which united us with several other local organizations in a SAVE THE SQUARE movement, we've seen beautiful things happening to the square itself. Flowers, shrubs and even trees, now have an underground watering system to support an always pleasing appearance-- not that plenty of hard physical labor hasn't been done by the Garder Club and others.

Simultaneously improvements began to be made in the Courthouse lawn areas. Benches have been added and several years have been spent in bringing the Memorial Garden on the East lawn to a high standard of perfection. Young white crepe-myrtles are now blooming and the smaller plantings of boxwood and other shrubbery have combined to make it a rare garden spot. This spring there was a dedication of the bricks with names of honorees inscribed on them in the walk leading to the Memorial Garden itself which saw also the dedication of a fine Swann metal sculpture as the centerpiece. Garden Club leader Yancey Smith was joined by our Historical Association President Lib McPherson at the podium.

But just wait until you see what the Club does for the Courthouse back yard! With a grant and county assistance!!! Out of a mistreated community dumping ground for old bricks (from the old Methodist Church), for instance-- well, they heard the county needed to fill in the space where they tore down the old County Garage and the old septic tank from the Old Jail, not to mention odds and ends of concrete castings of foundations no longer needed -- you know how it is with a dump: If you build it they will come) -- out of a piece of terrible terrain they plan an Arboretum with park accommodations for the public! They may use the present much-improved parking lot now in use and so far as we know the Old Jail and Old School exhibits will continue to be maintained by our Association until our lease runs out in 2006.

It has just been announced that the tract of land privately owned for years by the Graves family (and lying between the Arboretum as proposed and Jail Branch with its free-flowing traditional spring which once supplied the Jail) has been sold and the owner plans to build.

MEMORIES OF A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Despite getting laughed at for being so old-fashioned I am going to insist on calling this good neighbor "Uncle" Baz Graves. When we first came back to live in the historic house on the Square (well it's on the backside of the Square if you insist) sometime in the 1940's Baz was working on the old Jailer's house that had been moved down to the lot at the Spring below the Old Courthouse; they used water from the spring as long as the family lived there. A couple headed toward middle age, he and Aunt Jessianna (there! I've said it again, so shoot me!) had eight children, to the best of my recollection, some grown and some living at home. He was a tenant farmer for Mr. Sterling Graves who lived at Dongola and every day he would hitch his workhorse to his wagon and go to work at the other end of Yanceyville. I don't know what he did beside raise tobacco, but we were sometimes helped with our garden by him and I know that when I asked him to build me a field-stone or "creek-rock" chimney for my kitchen he was able to do it. Did a good job, too. We paid him the going rate, whatever it was at the time. He had worked for Zeke's father on odd jobs and his son Lorenzo was quite a pet of Mr. Anderson's--built fires for him in winter until Grandpa died in the mid-forties. That was when we bought the house from the other brothers and sisters. Every year the two oldest boys, Alan and one I never heard called anything but "Date" came from Washington or vicinity--they always had jobs in cities (quite successfully, it seems). They had big, shiny cars and would go to the annual Association of their church. Jessianna had been the only child of Preacher Pattillo and his wife and was one of the most sensible, competent and kind people I ever saw. She had her hands full with three young daughters and Lorenzo's baby brother Jesse, but she would offer to help me any time I needed her for some special household task, though she couldn't take a regular job, of course. Her married daughters were Elizabeth and Zelma who lived in Yanceyville except once I remember Zelma went up to D. C. and became a preacher. Eventually the girls went North and found jobs and did well as the saying goes. The war came and some went. Jesse returned to Yanceyville, a disabled veteran, and lived at the old house. He had a pump installed over the Spring; at one time he had a boarder in a log building Baz had built. Another old log cabin that was formerly the Jail kitchen was down there in recent years.

PRESERVE THE PAST--PLAN THE FUTURE

Why is the Editor getting all worked up over what's going on around the Square? Well it's not just because it concerns me personally but isn't successful development taking the best from the past and planning to include it in the future? What better trait can we offer for our County than good neighborliness?

All these fond memories of a departed family came rushing over me as I stood on the County's boundary and looked in vain for any trace of the former homestead. The workmen had graded, smoothed and rearranged the original small hills in the landscape and left nothing green except a crepe-myrtle bush said to have been at a corner of the dwelling. The former buildings had been pushed over by the family in its efforts to put in a trailer park several years ago. The town denied permission under one of the rules at the time. The numerous fieldstones were in a ridge on or near the County boundary. A new water-drainage from the square was being achieved by pipes and promises to correct previous practices that resulted in red mud in the former dirt road (what's the difference between mud and dirt? You'll find out when you try some on your sneakers). I thought back to the times when cars and even trucks would get stuck and six-foot long snakes would lie across it. As a matter of fact we were all saddened when Aunt Jessianna went out on the dark front porch one night and was bitten. The good news was that when they got her to the doctor it had not been the bite of a moccasin.

I could not even figure out where the porch had been. At one time it was a slab of concrete. Stucco was added to the outside of the house which had two stories and a very large chimney. Once when we needed a chimney on our kitchen (before, there had just been what they call a "hanging flue" we decided to build it out of fieldstone and asked "Uncle" Ben to do it. We brought up all the loose rocks we could find around the place including a dozen or so former stepping stones from the front walk leading up to the porch. This was in the days before wood-trimmers and those big, flat rocks were aggravating beyond belief to mow around.

Some of the rocks in the rubble of the new development looked like "creek-rocks", probably dredged up from Country Line Creek not far southward, to put in the walls around the Courthouse lawns. Something went "click" and I said to myself, "That's where the rocks from the gaping hole in the East wall went! The town's fire department used to be in the building that seemed almost ready-made-- all you had to do was tear out the wall for about 25 feet, dig out all the dirt, put in a retaining wall to the north and you've got two walls --free. Just lay your rafters, put up your roof and add two 12 foot doors! Some of us remember that old building and daily face the gaping hole in the wall. Fix it? Probably not.

When I returned to my contemplation of where I was, it seemed like a foreign country and as I turned to leave it the memories continued to flash on the screen. Through the years that old house had experienced the gamut of human emotions from tragic to hilarious, controlled or channeled by parental authority. The grounds got mowed, everything washed, scrubbed or polished as necessary and if there were bickerings they were promptly settled. Later there were grandchildren who would be brought to see us along with the other Southern sights.

Elizabeth married locally and lived in a succession of tenant houses on a tobacco farm. Frances, Hazel and Ocie called "Sis" married in the North. Lorenzo married a city girl and he, came a solid city citizen, so far as I know. Was it ten or 15 years ago that our favorite neighbor died in a nursing home? Jessianna had predeceased him and on at least one or two occasions the older boys spoke to Zeke about their selling the old home and how much did he believe it was worth? Then they asked the same about our property. Zeke didn't answer that one but he said later that he had the feeling that they might have had the cash to pay for it. We often wondered if this was common business banter or if either of these men ever had the desire to return to his old home. If he had our house, what would he have done with it? More to the point, though, was that we asked ourselves what we would do without it! Neighborhood talk -- what would we do without that?

Pending the unsettlement of their minds, the family let Jessie Lee move in and take care of the property. Most years at first he continued their custom of a good vegetable garden and he would help us with ours. Then he took jobs clerking at local stores and he sold us fresh chickens (he stopped raising chickens before he stopped raising pigs). One year we raised a pig on half-squares with Jesse. I don't remember how I handled half a pig at once.

When I was staying in the Caswell County Historical Museum in the Old Courthouse before the Restoration, Jesse used to bring me small artifacts which were duly placed on exhibit. One time it was a chocolate-spoon of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation vintage that he brought. Where did he get it? I never asked though I wondered "the Whitehouse?" He took that back in due time but one time just before Hoedown he brought a set of old keys found on the Hillsborough Dump. Glory be! One of them would lock the downstairs door to the old stairs to the Judge's Room upstairs back of the Courtroom (all gone now) and I could keep the kids from sneaking up the back way into an unattended Courtroom. But I really owe Jesse's memory an apology in the matter of the prize fish.

Jesse Lee Graves, comfortable with his veteran's compensation though not with his diseases, loved to fish. Where? Surely not in his back yard but by invitation to many farms in the county, including ours near Yanceyville. However, this particular fish did not come out of one of our ponds, but out of another blessing of our County, the Dan River. Yearly they come and he had in some way secured the biggest fish lovingly wrapped in plastic and almost the size of an infant! (Incidentally, Jesse never married, not that it has anything to do with this story).

"Could I please keep it in my freezer compartment for him?"

"Until when?"

"Until I can come and get it."

"Well."

Time went on and he didn't call for it. I needed my freezer for other things so I took it up to my old refrigerator at our mountain Cabin where it filled every available inch and was still frozen. Spring came again. No fish this year. Well. But the next spring, here comes Jesse: "Could I get out my fish--I've finally got room for it in my freezer?"

"Well, er, Jesse I hate to tell you this but last year we ran out of meat up there in the mountains and ate it! So sorry!"

Childlike disappointment appeared on his face and I'll never forget it. Was I a good neighbor? Probably not. Jessianna would have found some way to keep that fish for Jesse.

MORE GOOD NEIGHBORS ON THE SQUARE

The Yanceyville Fire Department deserves public thanks for a recent most-neighborly act of kindness. They cut down a dangerous tree in an adjoining private yard. Here's how it all happened.

Many years ago when the present brick Fire Department was built, the only place they could put the L-P gas tank that would furnish their heat was on the Anderson's yard. True it was on their side-yard and there was a maple tree that helped cut off the view of the tank. They got permission while we were still living in Hillsborough, about 1977.

We moved back and over the years the maple tree branched out, tripled in size and began to grow right over the tank. All was well until the maple-tree limb over the tank died. As we all know, one dead limb does not a dead tree make but in this case the worst was yet to come. In the last three years the whole tree has died. We don't know why but we looked at that tank and at the threat from above and around, too, and knew something had to be done. We went to Vernon Massengill, Fire Chief Extraordinary, and laid the matter before him and he said the Fire Department would get right on it. I cannot truthfully say I didn't nag him more than once about this situation, which does not get much better, generally speaking. Vernon was always nice and said they'd get right on it.

Fellas (can I call you fellas because I don't know all your names?) you will never know what it meant to Zeke in June when we came back from the mountains. He had been worried every time we went off lest something happen to that tree and that tank while we were gone. Now, what a relief to find that the Fire Department had taken chain saws and safely performed a most delicate operation. The tree was down and the tank was back up (they had said the tank would have to be moved before anything could be done toward cutting the tree). We realize that you perform acts of neighborly concern every time you answer a fire call and we thank you in general for the sacrifices it takes to be a volunteer neighbor to the whole community.

Sallie P. Anderson, Nettie Blaine Anderson,
Anne Elriest Anderson, Julie Anderson Smith,
Albert Anderson and all the girls' husbands.

Draft # 1 NM June 6, 2005

Middlebrooks Family Association
Field Trip Schedule
Friday July 29, 2005, 8:30-12:00

- 8:00 AM Assemble in parking lot in front of Ramada Stratford Hotel Lobby.
- 8:30 AM Leave Ramada Stratford Hotel (south on Hwy. 86)
- 8:50 AM **1st Stop Gatewood 1777 (On Road 1503)**
Discuss importance of Gatewood, and other settlements Stubblefield, Haywood etc. Rev. War. Also, give background on Shady Oak Christian Church and Cemetery in handout.
- 9:30 AM **2nd Stop Hogan's Creek Bridge**
Discuss Hogan's Creek, history of bridges (fiords and then bridges), Dix's Road and Ferry and the importance of grist mills located on Hogan's-Moons Creeks, Wallace Mill. (Continue on Old Mill Rd. 1503). Give history of Ebenezer Baptist Church and Providence Baptist Church in handout.
- 10:00 AM **3rd Stop Middlebrooks land Scott Road.** Discuss location of Isaac and Anne Middlebrooks land, neighbors, Town of Providence, William Ware cemetery etc.
- 10:30 AM **4th Stop Moons Creek Primitive Baptist Church (On Road 1300).**
Discuss probable location of Separate Baptist Church where Isaac and Anne are baptized and church history. Give history of three graveyards on the right side of Road.
- 11:00 AM **5th Stop Moons Creek.** Make a left on Foster Road Rd. (1312) and stop where it crosses Moons Creek. Discuss Middlebrooks, relatives and neighbors that lived on Moons Creek.
- 11:20 AM Continue south on Foster Rd. to Yanceyville
- 12:00 AM Lunch Caswell County History Association Museum and Library.
Speaker: Elizabeth McPherson, President of CCHA.
- 1:00 PM Research time: Caswell County Library and Courthouse.
- 4:30 PM Return to Danville, return trip:
Take Old NC Hwy. 86, Dixe's Rd. (Rd. 1500) to Purley then to Providence and then take the New Walters Mill Road (1505) back to Danville.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Despite receiving a cordial invitation to the KIDDERBROOKS/FAMILY ASSOCIATION'S reunion from Betty Middlebrooks Holland, 340 Oak Road, Washaw, N. C. 20172 it turned out to be impossible for me to attend any part-- not even the Luncheon at the Museum on Friday, July 29. As you can see from the program, our president Lib McPherson was assisted by Historical Association members in making it a significant event in spite of the intermittent showers. He contacted Raymond Ware whose ancestors' Revolutionary grant land joined that of the visiting clan and he said the weather did not keep these visitors from many other states from going to the very spots where their people once were active in the county. I was so sorry to miss their discussions of the early Baptist churches and on the early settlers on Moon's Creek. They left us a printed book at the Museum and I'll give it a review next time.

Just a reminder-- it's not Moon Creek as the Indians might have called it after the earth's satellite. It was named for an actual man named Moon and called Moon's Creek. I do had a map in either Hillsborough or South Boston calls it Moore's Creek.

Another red-letter genealogical event at the Museum was on Friday, July 22, when Members Ben and Margaret Williams brought Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Lanier Williams, 9606 Leaning Rock Circle, Austin, Tx. 78730 and a Williams cousin from Winston-Salem and discussed a matter which has been treated in former NEWSLETTERS but which is still pending. To review briefly, it seems that a widow, Mrs. Sarah Lanier Williams, dau. of Thomas Lanier of Granville County, and widow of Joseph Williams of Shallow Ford on the Yadkin, lived for a time in Yanceyville and here in 1814. The reason we know this first was that Ben and Margaret discovered the tombstone of Sarah on their land at Clarendon Hall. The stone was badly damaged but Lewis would like to see a project involving combing the field where the fragments were found. When found, the missing pieces should be stabilized and Mr. Williams would like for the stone to be placed in a church cemetery in Yanceyville. We discussed what Yanceyville Church she would have attended in the early 1800's but none of the local cemeteries is that old. Our president, Lib McPherson, was asked to find out if permission could be obtained from the Yanceyville Presbyterian Church and if so, Mr. Williams hoped the project would go through. It was mentioned that we already have at least one historically significant grave at this church-- that of Maud Gatewood. We promised to mention this project to the Association also.

L.L. Williams has contributed several copies of his book on the WILLIAMS FAMILY to the Museum and it has the only portrait I have ever seen of Col. John Williams, a leading Caswellian who lived at Locust Hill in Revolutionary Days. After lunch at Brown's, the guests were taken to the graveyard on Hwy. 150 where the tombstones of the Colonel and his wife are in the family cemetery.

In other news on this family, L. L. Williams told of his efforts in preserving the tombstone of Robert Williams, first governor of Louisiana, whose tombstone had been displaced by buldozing. Mr. Williams had initiated a project to rescue and properly place Robert's monument. It has been stated in the NEWSLETTER that this Caswell-born historical figure was buried on his own plantation in Louisiana. Robert and his brother Marmaduke were sons of Col. John Williams and material on them has been printed in recent NEWSLETTERS.

If you haven't heard enough about the disastrous hurricane and subsequent flooding of the city of New Orleans Betty Fitzgerald heard from a Southern connection about a group of City employees who stayed in their office until all the lines went dead;-- they looked out the window and saw their cars flooded in the parking lot and it was days before they were rescued.

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OUR ASSOCIATION AT WORK

****FALL QUARTERLY MEETING – OCTOBER 11, 7 PM @ THE MUSEUM****

The good old lazy days have summer have been good but not lazy in the historical association this year. We've had many visitors even on our shorter summer schedule, groups to visit, vacationers doing genealogy research, and more requests for assistance than we can reply to. The Middleton family whose ancestors were large landowners in Caswell before 1800 (and left Caswell by then) gathered from across the US to celebrate their Caswell Heritage and walk on ancestral grounds. What a great group they are! And their family history is one of the NEW resources in our Genealogy room.

The "new" heirloom apple trees in our back yard are thriving. They are a gift from David Vernon whose heirloom apple tree business is a real asset to our museum. David's orchard provides heirloom apple trees to Monticello.

Public thanks are in order for all of you have who contributed other artifacts and/or included additional gifts with your dues this year. Artifacts are/or will be displayed and cash gifts are being used to maintain

and operate the museum. Museum volunteers have been cleaning display cabinets and getting ready for fall visitors – especially during the Hoedown Festival. Tomorrow a fabulous collection of arrowheads and Indian tools found on just 1 farm in the Providence area will fill one of the cabinets.

All has not been sunshine and roses! Our beloved member "Zeke" Anderson passed away in his sleep on the evening of July 5. Zeke had suffered declining health for several years and this past year has been especially difficult. Zeke and his dear wife Sallie have been pillars of CCHA from its very beginning. Their combined knowledge of Caswell County lands and people would fill a massive library. We all share his family's grief as we realize that we have lost a friend and colleague, a student of history, and a reservoir of resources that were made available so graciously whenever we needed information. Zeke was a real Southern gentleman and a tireless advocate of historic preservation both in the material culture and in the history of families. He will not be forgotten!

CCHA AND THE 2005 BRIGHTLEAF HOEDOWN FESTIVAL – SEPTEMBER 23-25

- **Friday, September 23**
 - **Special presentation of Jesse James w/ Tyrone Power (1939 classic movie), 7:00 pm, Studio B, Pinnacle Studios to benefit the museum. Presented by Pinnacle Studio and CCHA. Admission: \$5 donation to CCHA. Includes free popcorn. Soft drinks available.**
- **Saturday and Sunday, September 24-25 – 9 am – 7 pm**
 - **Richmond-Miles Museum (in the Graves-Florence-Gatewood House) and Gift Shop**
Take home a bit of Caswell history! Books, videos, art, stationery, and more! Maud Gatewood documentary/new book of Thomas Day, etc. Look for some great sale items, too. We need some volunteers as hosts for both days. Won't you help!
 - **Exhibit of Jesse James Memorabilia – Central Hall of Historic Courthouse – Admission \$3**
Ralph Ganis, author of *Uncommon Men, The Secret Network of Jesse James Revealed*, will participate in CCHA's 2005 Brightleaf Hoedown offerings as part of his efforts to educate the public about the exploits of Jesse James in North Carolina. Ganis will bring in the largest assembly of privately owned artifacts concerning the James Gang in the nation. The collection includes the weapons and personal affects of Jesse James and his brother Frank as well as other members of the James Gang. Other artifacts include rare documents and books, original family photographs, letters, jewelry, clothing, art, movie collectibles, souvenirs, historical files and archeological finds from historic sites. There are hundreds of items in this collection. Part of this collection was recently on loan to the Jesse James museum in Kearney, Missouri and was sited as the reason the museum received the "Best of the West" award in the category of historic museums.

In addition to the collection, historic descriptions will tell the exciting story of Jesse James' connections and activities in Caswell and surrounding counties. Historians have confirmed many of Jesse's movements and locations in Caswell County which includes the Yanceyville Courthouse where Jesse visited the law office of Jake Long about 1879. For that reason, the Jesse James collection will be exhibited in the first floor hallway of the old courthouse so people can see the actual office Jesse came to.

**FALL QUARTERLY MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ 7:00 pm in the Museum**

This will be a business meeting. There are several major issues facing the Board of Directors that members need to be aware of and for which the Board needs member input as decisions are made. Therefore, we have decided to forego our usual program re: historic topics and concentrate on our organization and its work. One of the critical issues is our response to the Town of Yanceyville action implementing condemnation proceedings on a portion of the Historical Association property across from the Yanceyville Presbyterian Church. A copy of the Board's statement to the Town Council at its July meeting is included in this newsletter.

**Statement of CCHA President Elizabeth McPherson to
Town of Yanceyville Council on August 2, 2005**

To: Town of Yanceyville Council
Dan Prinz, Mayor

From: Board of Directors, Caswell County Historical Association, Inc.

Re: Town of Yanceyville Condemnation Proceedings again CCHA property

Mayor Prinz, Members of the Town Council, Manager Smith, and Attorney Farmer, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you all on behalf of the CCHA Board of Directors. With me tonight are a number of our Directors all of whom are available for discussion and answering questions regarding the issues. I will present a summary of the pertinent issues as we understand them. Copies will be available for each of you.

As we discussed your recent condemnation of CCHA property, we realized that we have had no opportunity for dialogue with you in this whole process. We have not come tonight in a confrontational or adversarial spirit, but in the spirit of partnership which has characterized our relationship over the years. We acknowledge and are not here to question your legal authority to take actions such as this. However, we do believe that the community, town government, and the historical association would benefit from full sharing of information and perspectives within the context of our common goals. I assure you that we have no desire to waste our energy or yours in a public hissing contest, but are committed to working together with you and other entities of our community to preserve Caswell's invaluable heritage and to promote the creation of a viable economic and cultural future for the county as well as for the Town of Yanceyville.

We commend you for the pro-active initiatives you have taken during the last few years that bode well for the future. We have followed the resulting improvements with pride and optimism for our future. Because of this we have come to ask you to reconsider the action that you have taken, and to ask you to rescind that action and work with CCHA to find a better way that will enable both the Town of Yanceyville and CCHA to achieve their goals.

For more than a year we have had regular dialogue with your attorney (and active CCHA member), Lee Farmer, and have assured him of our willingness to provide any easements needed in addition to the existing right-of-way for sidewalks and lighting which we consider a wonderful improvement for downtown. We have also assured him of our willingness to work with the town in solving the drainage problem on the northeast corner of the lot and even the possibility of our parting with that "leg" of our property in return for appropriate compensation.

Because of our long range plans to create a Heritage Village on our property which would benefit the community culturally and economically, we need all of the remaining property which was given to CCHA to be used for the public good. So, we also have a public trust to fulfill. Our loss of part of this property will force limitations on our being able to do this. The loss of the valuable corner lot character of the property will have a major impact on what we will be able to do. Because of the condemnation proceedings, we had to decline an opportunity in June to discuss the possibility of a CCHA/private initiative to establish the first element of the Heritage Village. If we could accomplish this, a sorely needed retail benefit would have been added to our downtown environment. This is a vivid example of the impact of failing to work together for the good of the whole.

We do support your plan to establish a memorial for the Safety Officers of the county, and also your plan to create a memorial for Maud Gatewood, but believe there is a better way to achieve this. The recent announcement of the

Town of Yanceyville/Piedmont Community College partnership to create a Safety Officers Training Center in the Atwater Building to serve the region is good news for our community. We recommend that the Safety Officers Memorial be incorporated into the Training Center landscaped entrance area.

We invite you to be a partner with CCHA in our commitment to establishing a memorial to Maud Gatewood within the fenced in area of the Graves-Florance-Gatewood House. Our goal is to re-create Maud's first studio in the garage/storage building. This entire building will be winterized and secured to establish Maud's studio, a loom house in the garage section, leaving 2 rooms for storage or other exhibits. We have already received a gift of the materials needed for this project and when funds are available for labor will begin preparing the building. Maud's agent, Joe Rowand, pledged to the CCHA in June assistance to acquire the necessary resources for re-creating the studio when we have the building ready. It would be very appropriate to preserve the memory of Maud's legacy to the Town of Yanceyville in the context of this memorial to her.

Until the Notice of Condemnation was served we were not aware that establishing a greenway was a part of the council's desire to have our property. Our long range plans will preserve generous areas for grass, trees, and other landscaping. In light of the drainage issues on the northeast corner of the block, CCHA will gladly work with conservation agencies to assure that the best recommended practices are followed in all of our initiatives. Preservation and responsible stewardship of our natural environment is an important part of preserving our heritage.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak to you. Our Directors are available for dialogue with you regarding this at any time. We look forward to future partnerships with you.

[The 2005-2006 CCHA Board of Directors is composed of the following people: President Elizabeth McPherson, Vice-President Gordon Bendall, Secretary Betty Gentry, Treasurer Mary Jo Henderson, Directors James Blackwell, Nate Hall, Robert Neal, Leon Richmond, Gordon Satterfield, Mike Willis, Franklin Murphy, Karen Moore, W.M Kimbro, and J.C. Winstead, Jr.]

Form for Membership Renewals and Gifts

Annual dues of \$20.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for family memberships are payable by January of each year for the calendar year. To renew your membership, please complete this form and mail to the Caswell County Historical Association, Att: Treasurer Mary Jo Henderson, Box 278, Yanceyville, NC 27379 with your check or money order.

All members receive the association newsletter 4 times a year with information about Caswell County families, news of historic preservation in the county, and information about Historical Association events.

Volunteers are needed in the museum, on committees, and other projects. Tell us how you will help.

Membership for Year 2006 New Renewal (circle one)

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____ Work Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Fax _____

*****Email _____

Payment:

Here are my Dues for 2005 \$ _____

Here's a gift for the association projects \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

I would like to be a volunteer. I would like to help with _____

You will be contacted!!

RENEW YOUR 2006 MEMBERSHIP NOW!

GIVE A GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP!

Remember – Membership is on the calendar year, so membership dues for 2006 will be due January 1, 2006. Dues for individuals are \$20 per year and for families \$30 per year. Make your check or money order to CCHA and mail to CCHA, Attention: Treasurer M.I. Henderson, Box 278, Yanceyville, NC 27379. If you have not paid your 2005 dues, won't you pay those now? Your address label indicates the last year for which your dues are paid.

Gift memberships are a wonderful way to help preserve your Caswell Heritage and to support CCHA's efforts to preserve our history. Just send those with your renewal check – or any other time!

YOUR SPECIAL GIFTS ARE NEEDED TOO!

We also want to urge you to send an additional contribution to our operating costs with your dues. Increased fuel costs will drastically affect us this winter altho' we have added insulation and storm windows to our facilities. Our rental income is our major source of operating funds, but we cannot increase the rent at this point to cover increased fuel costs.

EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED – We are exploring the possibility of sending the quarterly newsletter via email to all of those members who are willing to receive it electronically in order to reduce our operating costs. In addition, we would like to have a more timely way to communicate with members regarding issues, events, significant news. Please send us this page with your email address added just below your address level along with comments about how CCHA can more effectively preserve our history and serve our membership.

BIG NEWS: OUR VERY OWN WEBSITE - Richmond (Rick) Frederick, Jr. webmaster

Our most exciting news is that we now have our own website. The address is Caswell native Richmond (Rick) Frederick whose family tree is a virtual index of early Caswell surnames volunteered to design this site and to be our webmaster. His creative, diligent efforts have created a site that all of you will be proud of. Already more than 2000 hits have been made in less than 2 months and we are linked strategically to a lot of sites that will increase our visibility in the world of genealogy and historic preservation. Your contributions of information, photographs, and suggestions for making it better are welcome. Visit it now and often!

Caswell County Historical Association
P.O. Box 278
Yanceyville, NC 27379
www.rootsweb.com/~ncccha/

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
For 2006 NOW!**

MUSEUM HOURS
WED.-FRI. – 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm