

FOOTPRINTS OF THE PAST

PRESERVING FUQUAY-VARINA'S HERITAGE

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 28 - SEPTEMBER 2024

FUQUAY-VARINA MUSEUMS

HERITAGE DAY 2024

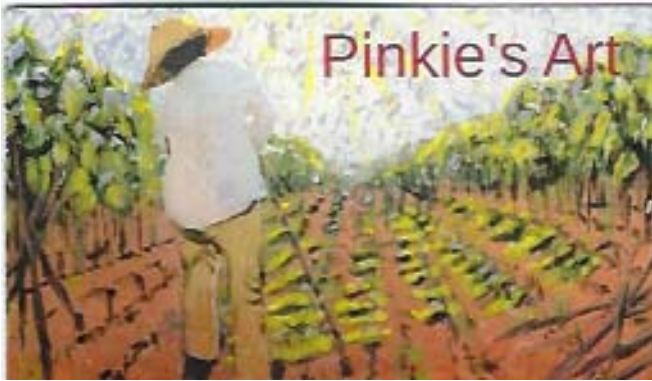


Southern Wake Quilters Guild
PO Box 1786
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526
SWQuiltersGuild@gmail.com

Monthly Meetings
3rd Tuesdays, September through May
Social Time 6:30-7:00 pm
Meeting 7:00-8:30 pm
Ransdell Hall, 309 N Ennis St, Fuquay-Varina

Heritage Day continues to be a major event at the museums with many visitors who just want to walk through. Fortunately, some of them do return for a full tour or bring their family for a tour later.

Our plans for special events on Heritage Day 2024 included two exciting visiting groups. The Southern Wake Quilters meeting at the FV Presbyterian Church came to display a range of wonderful pieces and to explain the process of quilting to our visitors. The group would welcome new members to the group if anyone is interested.



Pinkie Strothers and family brought her collection of art to show in the Dean Room. Her work is amazing in detail and presentation. Learn more about local artist Pinkie Strothers at: Pinkiesart.com

SUMMER TOURS CONTINUE

The very hot days have not been good touring days but some brave visitors have continued to some on regular public days and a few groups have scheduled tours at other times.



Compass Church, located on the site of the original Hilltop Church, brought a tour of four adult couples and two children most of whom are not originally from our area. They enjoyed learning what made out town, the history of our names, and the growth of our government, schools, and post offices.

Wee Care from the FVBC classes rather routinely schedule tours. The classes walk over and enjoy being given a tour of the caboose, barn, playhouse, school house and post office. All of these are exciting to “little eyes” who go back home to tell parents what they learned. Thank you to docents, Julia Yeargan and Diane Schurr who entertained the class of Taylor Johnson one hot morning in June.

Individual tours of families who have visiting friends have made up several other groups of visitors. An especially delightful group from Windsor Point came with our donor, Robert Senter, who enjoys showing his World War II artifacts to his fellow residents at Windsor Point.

Often these visitors are learning about the town to which they have moved.

DOCENTS DESERVE CUDOS FOR THIS YEAR

The wonderful docent force of the museums have stepped up to manage the public opening days since Mrs. Simmons had her hip break. They have become very adept at handling all the visitors, the unusual questions, and the different tales which are shared. Even a surprise of 25 visitors during one morning did not “cause even a blinking of an eye.”

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR THIS EFFORT!

New Collections

Quilt from FVMS fourth grade CATS class of Glenda Coats done in 1990. Ms. Coats assigned each of her students a quilt design, thus teaching them mathematical skills in cutting the pieces. All Volunteer ladies, Kathy Pierce, Christine Allen, Frances Moore, Frances Chatham and Ruth Brown, put the quilt pieces together and quilted the artifact. All, either mothers or grandmothers of the class, they worked on a quilting frame in the school library. The quilt was to be sold to purchase a classroom set of fraction calculators.

Five local banks joined to purchase the quilt and then donated it back to the school where it was hung in the school library.

Thank you to Ms. Coats, the quilters, and the students for this interesting project of our school.

Thank you to Branch Bank & Trust, Triangle Bank, Raleigh Federal Savings, Fidelity Bank and Southern National for this priceless artifact. Thank you to Fuquay-Varina Middle School principal Kris Clark and Assistant Principal, Paige Elliott, for allowing the museums to preserve this piece of our history.

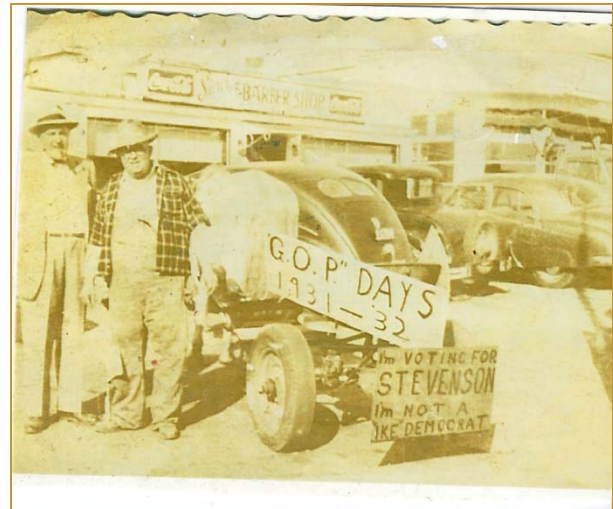
When the museums have opportunity and space, this artifact will be displayed for public viewing. Meantime, keep artifact preservation front and center with the Friends of the Museums.



The FVMS also donated a wonderful wooden cabinet

which has been built to honor the memory of deceased members of the FSHS Class of 1960. We owe a great debit of thanks to Jimmy Barnes who took a personal leave day to get this moved for the Friends.

As we expected, the piece had to be taken down in three parts to allow practical moving. Our plans to use it in the Ballentine School to display and store some of our recent acquisitions were nixed by the town. However, we are grateful to Jim Abernethy for allowing us to store it until we do have a place to utilize such a piece.



The gentleman in the plaid shirt is E. B. Walters, Sr. The photo is political clearly and interesting for the viewpoints from the depression to the years of "Ike" as president. We do not know the other gentleman but maybe someone will recognize him. Please consider letting the museums copy your old photos for our historical collection. Gift of Jennifer Walters Leggett.

Jennifer Walters Leggett has delivered artifacts from the estate of her brother, Eugene Bullock Walters, III to become part of the Friends of the Museums Collection. Among these were annuals from E. B. Walters, Jr. and EB, III and even one from Wake Chapel School (the first we have recovered of these yearbooks).

With the high school artifacts came several samples of certificates used over the years, a class picture, a letter jacket and numerous archives of the 1980's. Archival collections Again, the museums emphasize that our history needs to be preserved. We are grateful to Jennifer, a retired educator, for her thoughtful gift.



THIS PICTURE IS A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE OF THE KINDS OF ARTIFACTS WE NEED TO SAVE AT THE MUSEUMS. THIS IS CLASS OF E B WALTERS, II third from right in third row back who was identified by his daughter. We do not know the year or all the others from Fuquay Springs School. Gift of Jennifer Walters Leggett.

Jewell Ryals and Bostic and Wilson sent us two framed artifacts on tobacco from the estate of Fred Wagstaff, career tobacconist. These, too, will be excellent displays when we have space. Ryals also contributed a desk which was used for "standing" to fill our deposits, etc. in the old Bank of Fuquay. This will be quite an addition to our banking artifacts. Earlier, Ryals donated an antique wheel chair which we have been displaying out of place in the school house as the only available site.

Occasionally, something just surfaces which we save hoping we may sometime find concrete details. Such are the two horse shoes found by town employees digging 6 feet deep around Ransdell Road and North street. Very unusual!