Moore County Historical Association PO Box 324 Southern Pines, NC 28388 910.692.2051 www.moorehistory.com

### **NOVEMBER 2020**



### LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

We hope everyone is doing well with all the changes the corona virus has caused. The MCHA has also made many changes in our operation. The Shaw House Fair was cancelled but we were able to have a very successful yard sale. We want to thank all the volunteers and donors who helped make this possible. Tours of the Shaw House property were cancelled but we are pleased to announce that tours will resume on Nov. 12th. The new Tobacco Barn Museum will be a wonderful addition to the tour. Unfortunately, the members Christmas party at the Shaw House has been cancelled but the Christmas celebration at the Bryant House will be held. In addition, we will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Bryant House.

The Board of Directors and Friends of the Bryant House were invited to a cookout at the Bryant House sponsored by the former volunteers of the House in the Horseshoe. There was great food and a very nice donation by the former House in the Horseshoe volunteers to help maintain the Bryant House property.

The Board of Directors are now meeting in person after several months of online meetings. We meet outside at the Shaw House in order to maintain social distancing.

We are pleased to announce that Gene Schoenfelder has been elected as Vice President and we welcome Grace Jones to the Board of Directors. Grace will be completing the term of Grace Snelgrove who will be moving. We wish Grace the best with her move and thank her for many years of dedication to MCHA.

With the holiday seasons fast approaching, don't forget about the gift shop at the Shaw House. Special soaps and other gifts will be available. We hope everyone will remain well and we can return to normal operations in the near future.

Steady Meares and John Jackson, Co-Presidents



### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### Bryant House Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 5, 2020 from 10 am to 4 pm, Free Admission Bryant House, 3361 Mount Carmel Road, Carthage

This year marks the 200th birthday for the historical James Bryant House in Carthage. Bring all the family to celebrate, have a historical Christmas experience combined with our beloved Heritage Day at the historic Bryant House and McLendon Cabin. On this special day there will be live music, simple and authentic Christmas decorations, Civil and Revolutionary War interpretations, and demonstrations of 18th and 19th century crafters. There will be a food truck and this event is free and open

to the public, takes place outdoors, rain or shine, and follows social distancing recommendations. For more information or if you would like to join the Friends of the Bryant House, call (910) 692-2051, visit www.moorehistory.com, or email us at info@moorehistory.com

### Shaw House Properties Opening

Thursday, November 12th (Opening Date)

Great news, the Moore County Historical Association's Shaw House grounds and properties are reopening for tours and gift shop purchases. It is a great time to visit because the gift shop contains unique items for holiday shopping like area history books, vintage soaps, framed collector's 'property-themed' cancelled stamp envelopes, and beautifully-framed pressed-flowers. Our docents are ready to host you on the following limited visiting days and hours through the month of December. Also, don't forget to see the restored and very impressive Tobacco Barn, if you haven't already. It is full of historical items, pictures, and history on children's roles in the industry. Masks are required, and groups are limited to four persons. If possible, please call the Historical Association ahead of time to book a tour, (910) 692-2051. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Scheduled/Times: Thursday 1:00 – 4:00, Friday 1:00 – 4:00

CLOSED Thanksgiving Week (11/22 – 11/28, Christmas Week (12/20 – 12/26)

### **NEWS**

### Shaw House Tag Sale

Saturday, October 17, 2020

The ultimate Southern Pines tag sale, at the Shaw House grounds, was even more of a success this year than last, and we said that last year. The success we had is all due to you, our members and volunteers. Thank you for your donated goods and time. All the donations of fine goods, collectibles, antiques, and books, etc. this year were historic in number and content. We could not have had the success we had without all your generous contributions. Thank you to all the volunteers, especially those who worked for weeks at organizing and pricing items. It was a collaborative effort that paid off greatly. We do not know how many people attended but there were a 'bunch of people,' says Sarah Matthews. We are so grateful that we had great weather and could remain outdoors for this important fundraiser for the MCHA, even in the time of corona virus. Thank you also to Jim and Grace Jones for their continued efforts at pricing and posting items to sell on eBay for the Association, as well, and to Diane McKay and Sue for taking pictures of the event. Every one's help is what continues our important and valuable work.

### **Buried History**

Saturday, October 17, 2020

Board members of the MCHA were invited by Chris Ingram to see a display of some artifacts that he has discovered locally using a metal detector. Some of the 100 plus artifacts dated back to the Civil War period. He has also published some of his relics in national magazines.



# Thank You Contributions & Donations

Mr. Mark Black

Mr. John Black

Ms. Suzanne Daughtridge

Mr. and Mrs. Mac Fowler

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Fulghum

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Gaydica

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gooding

Ms. Deborah Hughes

Mr. & Mrs. John Hunter

Ms. Alison Ives

Mr. Morgan Jackson

Dr. and Mrs. W. Kirby Kilpatrick

Mr. Joe McDonald

Mr. Steady Meares

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Monroe

Dr. and Mrs. John Monroe

Mr. Bruce Morgan

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Pate

Ms. Susan Pockmire

Ms. Elizabeth Robinson

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Sills

Mr. Al Simmons

Ms. Judith Smith

Mr. Walter Snyder

Ms. Mary Stephenson

Mr. and Mrs. Todd Stout

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Tilton

Mr. Jim Walker

Ms. Shiriley Ward

Mr. Jesse Wimberley

Ms. Ann Yamrus

Mr. and Mrs. David Young



Chris Ingram treasure hunter.



Black family visit the Kenneth Black Cemetery. L/R John Jackson, Mark Black, Jim Jones, and John Black.



Bryant House check presentation. L/R Steady Meares, Kaye Brown, John Jackson, and Trent Carter.



Goodbye to Jean Barron Walker.



Shaw House Tag and Yard Sale (above, below)



Chris began using a metal detector about 8 years ago. He has searched primarily in Moore County, especially in the Southern Pines area. Among his prize finds are a room key from the late 1890s from the old Southern Pines Hotel, and a pair of gold rings with a very interesting back story.

Once the pandemic has subsided and we have returned to more normal activities, Chris would like to partner with the Historical Association with a large display of some of his finds at an Association event.

## House in the Horseshoe Preservation Committee Has Big Announcements

Sunday, October 18, 2020

The Friends of the Bryant House and board members of the Moore County Historical Association were invited by the House in the Horseshoe Preservation Committee (HHPC) to have a cookout-social at the Bryant House and McLendon Cabin grounds. Kaye Brown graciously hosted the groups who came together for a one-of-a-kind gathering. Trent Carter, president of the HHPC gave the sad news of the cessation of their formal thirty-year long efforts as a non-profit organization, which focused on the preservation efforts of the Alston House, House in the Horseshoe State Historic Site grounds, gift shop, and special event re-enactments. The HHPC was told by the State that the committee and its volunteers were no longer needed. However, since their dissolvement, they have continued to be in touch with our preservation groups and efforts.

The members from the HHPC, at the cookout, made a surprising announcement and presented a check in the amount of about \$15,200 to the Friends of the Bryant House! John Jackson, co-president of the MCHA board, and Kaye Brown gratefully accepted the donation. Surprisingly, there was more. The HHPC also donated their gift shop's merchandise which was said to be equal in amount to that of the donated funds. The merchandise includes period-relevant kids' games, currency reproductions, books, etc. There were plenty of discussions for what the money could be used, but we continued our acquainting and relished in the delightful thoughts that the volunteers from the HHPC are gained as friends, helpers, and supporters of our historical preservation work here in Moore County.

Thank you so much to the House in the Horseshoe Preservation Committee for their very generous donations and continued friendship and support.

### Kenneth Black Cemetery Update

Over the past couple of months there have been some announcements about the Kenneth Black Cemetery that we'd like to bring to your attention. For those of you who are unfamiliar, it is located in a small plot behind the Chick-fil-A restaurant. The burial site is surrounded by more than 45 acres of other privately-owned property off U.S. 15-501. About one-third of an acre likely includes additional graves of people related to the Kenneth Black family and others. Black's home was just north of this burial site and cemetery, where the Residence Inn is now.

Recently, two ancestors of the Black family contacted us and were given a tour of the site by John Jackson and Jim Jones. This was their first visit to the cemetery.

Also, a huge thanks to one of our voluteers for her unwavering dedication and consistent maintenance of the grounds by donating her time and funds to its rehabilitation and upkeep. Come the late winter, when it's best to plant longleaf pines, she has located a source through another member who will donate some seedlings. They will be planted at the site to replace some of the large hickory trees that need to be removed. The five main hickories, when we first began to rehabilitate the grounds, were small and didn't produce nuts. Now, they are quite large and have actually become hazardous to walk under. Their leaves and nuts make it slippery and awkward to navigate around the cemetery. We don't want anyone who visits, to fall or get hurt. The longleaf pine will be easier to manage.

If you'd like to read more about the Kenneth Black Cemetery, please visit this link, which is a pdf of our past newsletter from August 2015: moorehistory.com/events\_and\_news/images/newsletters/pdf/newsletter\_2015\_08.pdf

### 2020 - 2021

### **Directors**

Carla Butler

Paula Caddell

**Katie Chisolm** 

**Kate Curtin** 

**Matt Farina** 

**Robert Ferro** 

Angela Gaskell

John Jackson

**Grace Jones** 

**Dorothy Kicklighter** 

Suzanne McCain

Eileen Malan

**Steady Meares** 

**Scott Samuel** 

Gene Schoenfelder

**Dorothy Shankle** 

**Hugh Shepard** 

**Carley Sutton** 

MOORE COUNTY
ASSOCIATION
PO Box 324
Southern Pines, NC 28388

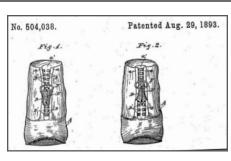
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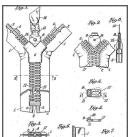
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# THE HOOKLESS FASTENER By Matt Farina









The idea of a sliding fastener is attributed to Elias Howe who was working on his sewing machine. In 1851 he took out a patent for an "Automatic Continuous Clothing Closure," but never did anything else about it since he was involved in promoting his sewing machine. According to Lewis Weiner, writing in Scientific American, in 1893 an American entrepreneur named Whitcomb L. Judson, secured "two U.S. patents for an automatic closing device actuated by a sliding mechanism." He called it the "clasp locker," a complicated hook-and-eye shoe fastener. The following year he set up a company, the Universal Fastener Company, with a lawyer, Lewis A. Walker, to actually make it. It debuted at the 1894 Chicago World's Fair, but it met with little commercial success. By 1904 they had improved the design, patented a machine to actually make it, and came up with a slogan, "A pull and it's Done."

In 1906 they hired a Swedish engineer, Gideon Sundback, to continue innovations. The old fastener had sharp and awkward hooks that tore fabric and even popped open. By 1913, Sundback's new-and-improved system increased the number of fastening elements from four per inch to 10 or 11, had two facing-rows of teeth that pulled into a single piece by the slider and increased the opening for the teeth guided by the slider. His patent for the "Separable Fastener" was issued in 1917.

His fastener looked like our modern zipper in that it was metallic and was hookless. Sundback also created the manufacturing machine for the new zipper. The "S-L" or scrapless machine took a special Y-shaped wire and clamped it on a cloth tape to produce a continuous zipper chain. Within the first year of operation, Sundback's zipper-making machine was producing a few hundred feet of fastener per day. In expectation, Walker raised more capital, reincorporated as the Hookless Fastener Company in Hoboken, NJ, and set himself up as president. Later the company moved to Meadville, PA where it operated for most of the 20th-Century as Talon, Inc.

In that same year, 1917, a New York City tailor, Robert J. Ewig, put Hookless Fasteners into money belts. The money belts became an instant success among U.S. sailors, whose uniforms did not have pockets in World War I. Almost all of the Hookless Fastener Company's 24,000 sales were for money belts. In 1918 the Navy ordered 10,000 fasteners for flying suits.

Public interest was now growing. B.F. Goodrich put the fasteners in their rubber boots. This let people close their boots quickly, and with one hand. The word "zip" had been in use since the mid-1800s, meaning to move rapidly. It is possible that this influenced Goodrich in the name for the boot. They called the model "zipper" and trademarked the name. Zippers began being used for clothing in 1925 by Schott NYC on leather jackets. In the 1930s, a sales campaign began for children's clothing featuring zippers. The campaign praised zippers for promoting self-reliance in young children by making it possible for them to dress in self-help clothing. The zipper beat the button in 1937 in the "Battle of the Fly", after French fashion designers raved over zippers in men's trousers. Esquire declared the zipper the "Newest Tailoring Idea for Men" and among the zippered fly's many virtues was that it would exclude "The Possibility of Unintentional and Embarrassing Disarray."

Continued on Back

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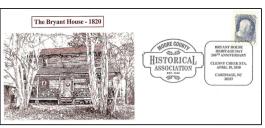
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### **CONTINUED FROM FRONT**



### Commemorative Envelopes



Last fall, the MCHA featured a No.10 business envelope with the image of the Shaw House and a postage stamp that was an official reproduction of a 19th Century postage stamp. The postmark on the envelope was the logo of the Association, and the Shaw House was the local Post Office for that day. They are collectibles because only 100 were produced. They are the only envelopes

in existence that bear that postmark because the rubber stamp was destroyed by the Post Office 30 days after the event.

In January 2020 a second envelope and postmark were designed commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Bryant House. Similar postage stamps were used. The Postal Service approved the postmark for Clenny Creek Day in March, but the event was canceled because of the pandemic. However, Matt Farina canceled the envelopes in the Carthage Post Office before the rubber stamp was destroyed. As before, there were only 100 envelopes created.

The envelopes are on sale for \$5 each; a single envelope in a simple black frame sells for \$20; the two envelopes in a black frame cost \$25. All proceeds go to the MCHA. The envelopes make unique gifts for the historian or collector, and at the same time you are supporting your organization. Please contact Matt Farina at 910-246-0452 or at mafarina@aol.com for more information.

### Jean Barron Walker

Jean Barron Walker, 85, of Southern Pines, passed away on September 10, 2020. She married James W. Walker in 1956 while both were students at Michigan State University, and raised four children in Iowa. She and Jim moved to Southern Pines in 1994. She was a long-time member of the Moore County Historical Association and contributed many researched articles for the newsletter. Much of the historical research was conducted at the Tufts Archives. Jean's Slice of History section featured articles on Midland Road, Annie Oakley, Tuft's trolley, Knollwood, Putter Boy, Longleaf, and the Village Chapel, just to name a few.

Jean submitted her last article on the Sandhills Woman's Exchange, literally days before her death. Although I knew her for a little more than a year after I became editor, I quickly realized she was passionate about local history. Her contributions will be missed by all.

Matt Farina

### Hookless Fastener Continued from Front

By 1934 Hookless Fastener Company's turnover exceeded 60 million pieces, and on the other side of the world, Tadao Yashida formed the Japanese company that the world would come to know as YKK. Go ahead and check the pull tab on your zipper. With the end of World War II, polymer advances led to the development of plastic zippers. Inventers from Germany to Australia to the United States applied for patents to refine the manufacturing process. By the 1970s, annual zipper production was in excess of two billion, and by the 1980s, the industry leader was YKK. China now supplies 80% of the international market.

Today, sliding fasteners still are moving into new areas. Medical zippers now sometimes replace sutures. At the March 2017 Los Angeles Fashion Week, Talon presented the world's longest zipper. It is 3.1 miles long.