



# **CAROLINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**

January 2020

P.O. Box 324, Bowling Green, Virginia 22427

Vol. 40, Issue 1

## **MEETING LOCATION**

**The Caroline Historical Society, Inc., will meet at 3 p.m. on Sunday, January 26, 2020, in the Caroline Community Services Center, 17202 Richmond Turnpike, Milford, VA 22514**

### **From the President**

I sincerely hope everyone had a Merry Christmas/Happy New Year and enjoyed time with family and friends over the holiday season. We should remind ourselves about the true meaning of Christmas and the importance of family.

The year 2020 is upon us and we look forward to planning and implementing new educational exhibits and programs during the upcoming year. There are many interesting artifacts in our collection yet to be shared with the public. To coincide with our April 26, 2020, Membership Meeting Program, our current exhibit on Fort A.P. Hill will be expanded to include additional documents, pictures, and other items representative of the era prior to the U.S. Government acquiring 77,000 acres for the military base. If anyone has family members or friends who may have pictures, documents, letters, or other items of interest from the area of what is now Fort A.P. Hill, we would like to copy or borrow them for the exhibit. If individuals or businesses would like to donate, the Caroline Historical Society, Inc. (CHS) also accepts items related to Caroline County history, operational equipment/supplies, and monetary support for specific preservation projects or operational expenses. The April CHS Newsletter will include pictures from pre-A.P. Hill days.

### **Program for January 26, 2020 Membership Meeting**

Hope to see everyone at our January 26, 2020 Membership Meeting as we have a busy agenda. First, along with being our Annual Membership Meeting, presentation of the CHS Annual Award will be announced. This distinguished award, recommended by the CHS Annual Award Committee, is given to the person, group, business, or other organization for their contribution to the preservation and promotion of Caroline County history. The committee had several great nominations but will not be making the announcement of the award winner until the January meeting. Be sure to be there to congratulate this year's recipient.

Our main program will be a power-point presentation on the "Old Jail" highlighted with two excellent speakers. Guest speakers include well-known local writer and historian Susan Sili, who will provide a detailed history of the building and our former Caroline Sheriff, O. J. Moore, will share his stories about the jail and its occupants while he was in office. CHS is honored to have these distinguished individuals as presenters. You don't want to miss this educational and entertaining event. The meeting is open to the public, members bring a friend or family member.

This program comes at an appropriate time while CHS waits to hear the official response from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) regarding our quest to place the "Old Jail" on the Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

## **CHS Holiday Open House and Local Authors' Book Signing**

This was another big success, with over 50 guests attending. I appreciate the CHS members who attended, volunteered to help, and brought refreshments. Special thanks to the local authors Kim and Ray Campbell and Kay Brooks for spending the afternoon with us and selling/signing their books. CHS now has Kim and Ray's books on local history to sell. The books will be available at the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Thank you, Kim and Ray, for the opportunity to sell your books.

## **Update on "Old Jail"**

As reported previously, CHS, in cooperation with the Caroline County Board of Supervisors, prepared an application to the VDHR requesting the "Old Jail" be placed on the VLR and NRHP



I am very pleased to report that on December 12, 2019, the Virginia Board of Historic Resources and the State Review Board finally reviewed our application and approved the "Old Jail" to be placed on the VLR. Caroline County received the official letter from VDHR on December 23, 2019 confirming the "Old Jail" is now listed on the VLR. Along with this approval, VDHR will recommend to the National Park Service to place the "Old Jail" on the NRHP. The review and approval by the National Park Service (NPS) may take up to forty-five days. This is great news for CHS and Caroline County. Hopefully the official approval from the NPS will be received in time to announce at our January 2020 meeting. Approval of the designation will enhance our chances of obtaining various local and state grants in the future for necessary renovations.

*Old Jail built 1900.*

## **Brief History of Upper Zion Church**

The following article was written by Ms. Maude B. Motley, former resident of the Upper Zion area of Caroline County, Virginia, now the U.S. Army Garrison Fort A.P. Hill. She presented this brief history of Upper Zion Church at Bowling Green Baptist Church in February 1977. The full text of this article appeared in the local newspaper after her presentation at church. Ms. Motley was born in Caroline County on September 19, 1901, and passed away on June 25, 1989, at the age of 87. She was a graduate of Westhampton College of the University of Richmond and taught in several Virginia schools for 48 years. Ms. Motley was the daughter of Henry Judson Motley and Clara Rora Boulware Motley of Caroline County. Ms. Maude loved history, especially the Lincoln/Booth event. Here are her words as written in the newspaper article.

On February 1, 1942, Bowling Green Baptist lost her sister church when the U.S. took over A.P. Hill. This was Upper Zion, organized in 1774 when we were still a British colony and required to support the Episcopal Church. It was founded by Lewis Craig and John Waller both of whom served jail terms for promoting Baptist doctrines. Farmers are very independent people and were the first to embrace these new doctrines. The wooden church was built on Tuckahoe Creek, now in A. P. Hill. It outgrew this building and another was built nine miles nearer Bowling Green and in 1819 was renamed Upper Zion.

Why Upper? Zion of course was for the sacred heart of Jerusalem, the city of David. Tuckahoe was the name of an edible root that the Indians roasted as Boy Scouts do sweet potatoes in their campfires.

The first pastor, John Shackelford, who had been imprisoned in Essex, served for 18 years. He performed the first recorded legal marriage by a Dissenter after the law was passed in 1780 which made it lawful for non-Episcopal ordained ministers to conduct marriages. He married Horatis Jeter and Eliz Rolands.

***Upper Zion Baptist Church  
prior to 1941.***



By 1840 the church had 453 members, 113 Negro, and so they moved again to the final site. Here the congregation, literally, built a large brick building.

My great-grandfather, Tarkie Broaddus, oversaw the workmen who burned the brick across the road in a field at Bloomfield, later the home of Andrew Marshall, and Mr. Carneal did the brickwork.

These bricks were used to build the educational building of the Bowling Green Methodist Church after Congress sold the building to the Methodists for \$10.

This third church had a large auditorium with three aisles, the central one dividing the ladies' side on the right from the men's on the left. Only Mr. Andrew Marshall always sat with his wife on the Ladies' side.

Enon was the sister church under Dr. Baynham, a medical missionary, who healed both the body and soul over a large area in Caroline and Essex. He was a bachelor who lived with the Henry Martins when their son Julian was a small boy.

Mr. Julian was a member of bowling Green Baptist until his death, Dr. Baynham drove around in his horse and buggy to minister to the needy, whether rich or poor, black or white.

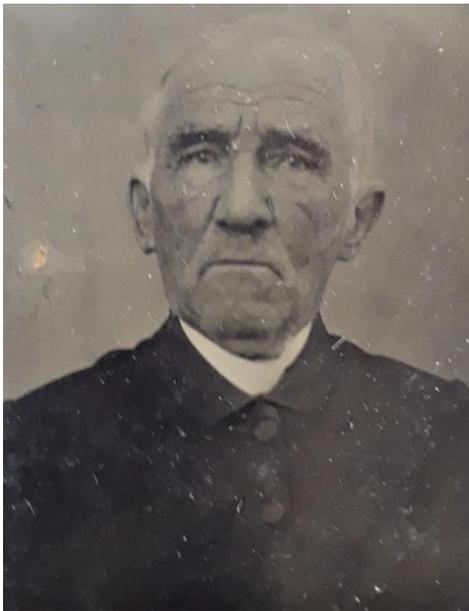
He learned that a Negro family working on Clay Hill, the Martin home, had not been legally married, so he persuaded them to be married in the Martin Home and reversed the financial custom. Instead of the minister getting a fee he gave the groom \$15 which he promptly spent in Port Royal on a pair of fancy riding boots. Poor bride! Dr. Baynham preached on Sunday at Enon or Upper Zion for 34 years and died in his buggy, his horse bringing his body safely home.

He was buried, colonial fashion, under the pulpit at Enon. Upper Zion erected a marble slab in his memory beside his pulpit.

By the time the Baptists of Bowling Green, whom Dr. Willie Lee Broaddus reared in Upper King and Queen Church (also organized in 1774) said had no Baptist church for the first 200 years, got the devil in them and built two churches and since the negro members wished their own church they built Shiloh, with the result that the group who felt unable to support one church now had three. After the death of Dr. Baynham, Upper Zion and Bowling Green Baptist called joint ministers who preached at each on alternate Sundays until Upper Zion was phased out in 1942; Upper Zion celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> year of Dr. Ritter's pastorate in October 1940, four months before the news of the takeover of A.P. Hill.



***Rev. Dr. L. M. Ritter >  
Pastor at Upper Zion and  
Bowling Green Baptist.***



About 30 members of the Upper Zion who lived near enough to Bowling Green joined the sister church, bringing with them the marble marker to Dr. Baynham which was installed under the gallery of Bowling Green Baptist.

It Reads: In Memoriam  
Dr. Wm. A. Baynham  
Born October 19, 1813  
Died June 15, 1882

For 34 years the beloved pastor of Upper Zion Church by whom this tablet is erected to his memory. Pure in life, fervent in spirit, diligent in duty he has entered into the joy of his Lord.

***Dr. William A. Baynham  
Pastor of Upper Zion.***

As a person is never dead until he is forgotten, so Upper Zion is alive in the memory of her former members who gather at Green Lawn to inter those returning for their last sleep and at Liberty, now the post chapel of A.P. Hill, every June to meet with the former members of four disbanded churches.

***Ms. Maude B. Motley - 1977***

## **Additional Notes on Upper Zion Baptist Church**

Upper Zion was the first Baptist church in Caroline County to install electricity, in 1923. First church in Caroline County to have factory-made pews. During the church's history, there were seventeen men who served as pastor. The first name of the church was "Tuckahoe," changed in 1819 to "Upper Zion." Upper Zion received word in 1941 that the church and surrounding property was going to be acquired by the U.S. Government for the formation of Camp A.P. Hill Military Reservation. The U.S. Government paid \$11,000 for Upper Zion Baptist Church and its property. After payment was made by the U.S. Government, the church leaders of Upper Zion agreed to give Bowling Green Baptist \$1,500 for an organ, \$500 to the Virginia Baptist Historical Society for preserving the church records, \$3,000 to the Greenlawn Cemetery for upkeep of the graves, \$500 bond was given to Bethel Baptist Church in Stafford County, \$1,000 to Concord Baptist Church building fund, the church's oak pews and \$1,000 was given to Salem Baptist Church in Sparta, \$4,000 was donated toward the construction of the chapel at Greenlawn Cemetery, and income from investments would be sent for a period of 10 years toward the Relief and Annuity Board for the benefit of their pastor. Upper Zion Baptist Church served its community and members for 168 years. Once acquired, the U.S. Government had it torn down using German prisoners-of-war. The bricks were sold to the Bowling Green Methodist Church for \$10 and reused to construct the new addition to their church. Although the church was destroyed and the membership scattered, the love, community spirit, and fellowship it generated over the years would never be lost by those who were a part of its history.

## **A Brief History of Antioch Church**

Antioch Church was formed near Bowling Green on January 1, 1832. Their first house of worship was located two miles south of Bowling Green on the southwest corner of Route 301 and Route 628 (Antioch Road). It was constructed of wood and destroyed by fire of unknown origin. The second house was built of brick on the same location and was sold upon the removal of the church to Bowling Green. The brick structure is now a residence and owned by the Gravatt family. The third dwelling at Bowling Green was destroyed by fire on February 21, 1886, and the fourth building, a splendid house roofed with slate, was burned in the spring of 1892. The fifth building, erected on the same site, was struck by lightning and burned on June 9, 1917. A sixth building, more modest than all the others, was erected and dedicated in 1929. This structure continues to serve community at its location on South Main Street in Bowling Green.



*Antioch Church,  
Bowling Green, Virginia  
Photo-Postcard dated 1910.*

Data for the above Antioch Church article was researched from *A History of Caroline County Virginia* by Marshall Wingfield

## **Mt. Lawn Cemetery**

The U.S. Government purchased 77,000 acres in Caroline County, starting in 1941, for a U.S. Army military training base and named it Camp A.P. Hill Military Reservation. Included in that purchase was an agreement requiring the U.S. Government to remove and rebury all known gravesites to designated local cemeteries outside of the military base boundaries.

To follow up on their agreement, the Government purchased ten acres of land from Mrs. Martha Ferguson Galloway Baylor on the southwest corner of Route 2 and State Route 626 (Woodford Road). This ten-acre piece of land was to serve as a burial ground for the African-American graves exhumed from the area that would become A.P. Hill Military reservation. This cemetery was named Mt. Lawn Cemetery. Graves were moved from the church cemeteries of St. Paul, Mount Olive, Union Baptist, Bethlehem Baptist Church as well as private cemeteries located in the newly formed military base. The original records detailing the removal and reburial of the remains from the Fort A.P. Hill area to Mt. Lawn and Greenlawn Cemeteries are stored in the archives of the Caroline Historical Society, Inc., 121 Main St., Bowling Green, Va. 22427

**Reminder Annual Dues:** As a reminder, please pay your annual membership dues, they are due by the end of January. The dues for a regular (individual) membership are \$15.00 for the year and \$20.00 a year for a family membership. Life membership is a one-time cost of \$200.00. Please consider investing in a life membership. A CHS membership would make a great gift. Checks may be made out to “Caroline Historical Society” and mailed to Caroline Historical Society, P.O. Box 324, Bowling Green, VA 22427-0324.

**Recent Donations:** Special thanks to James Presgraves, former resident, for his generous donation of several albums containing many photos of the Presgraves, Motley, Boulware families (Caroline County) from 1900 to 1941 timeframe. A great addition to our collection.

**Refreshments for Meeting:** Please feel free to volunteer your services to bring refreshments such as cookies, brownies, snacks, soft drinks, water, etc., to our meetings. See contact information below. Your assistance is always appreciated.

## **Dates to Remember**

January 26, 2020—CHS Membership Meeting, 3 p.m., Caroline Community Services Building  
April 26, 2020—CHS Membership Meeting, 3 p.m., Caroline Community Services Building  
July 26, 2020—CHS Membership Meeting, 3 p.m., Caroline Community Services Building  
October 25, 2020—CHS Membership Meeting, 3 p.m., Caroline Community Services Building

## **Caroline Historical Society, Inc., General Contact Information**

R. Wayne Brooks, President—[wbrooks@bealenet.com](mailto:wbrooks@bealenet.com) Cell Phone (804) 513-9069

Facebook—Caroline Historical Society, Bowling Green, Va.

Web Site—[www.carolinehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.carolinehistoricalsociety.org)

Location—Sidney E. King Arts Center, 121 Main St., Bowling Green, Virginia 22427

Mailing Address—P.O. Box 324, Bowling Green, VA 22427-0324

Hours of Operation—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Special tours by request