

Spring/Summer Edition

Beaufort Historical Association

VOLUME 66, ISSUE II

HISTORIC TIMES

Quarterly



COMMUNITY
ARTS &
ACHIEVEMENTS

HERITAGE
A SEADOGS
TRIBUTE

HAPPENINGS
OLD HOMES TOUR
& More

RICHARD WHITEHURST HOUSE CIRCA 1881



Chadwick House c. 1910
315 ANN ST.

OLD HOMES TOUR & More



Fishhouse Cottage
2111 FRONT ST.



John B. Jones House c. 1898
607 ANN ST.

The Beaufort Historical Association's 65th annual Old Homes Tour & More opens a new chapter June 26-27, and it's the biggest tour yet. It's America's 250th and in tribute to red, white, and blue and Beaufort old and new, ticketholders will experience the Beaufort Historic Site homes and public buildings at 130 Turner Street with a distinct patriotic welcome. Along with six private homes in the historic district and the charming "Fishhouse" on Front Street, guests can tour three modern condominium homes at 805 Mulberry, an exciting preservation project repurposing the former Beaufort Graded School building and campus into an innovative Beaufort neighborhood. The old gym, fully restored, is now The Mainsail Event Center. The Mainsail will serve as an exhibit hall with storytellers, memorabilia, and guest speakers honoring the Beaufort High School Seadogs legacy. For the first time, the tour also includes five homes in the newer community of Beau Coast, showcasing the welcoming hospitality that has drawn people to Beaufort for centuries. The tour and exhibit will be open daily 10:00am-4:00pm. Visiting The Mainsail Event Center Seadogs Exhibit does not require a ticket but



Thompson Home
142 SHEARWATER LN.



Mace House c. 1852
619 ANN ST.



Atkins Home
2203 LENNOXVILLE RD.



Richard Whitehurst House c. 1881
809 ANN ST.



McGee Home
227 SHEARWATER LN.



Thompson Home
107 MARSH ST.



Kyle Home
329 GOLDENEYE CT.



B. Jones House c. 1875
213 MARSH ST.



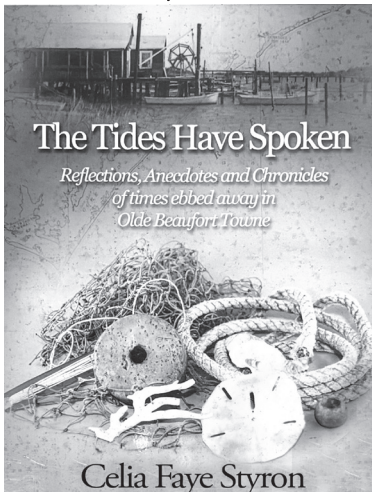
Mulberry & The Mainsail
805 MULBERRY ST.



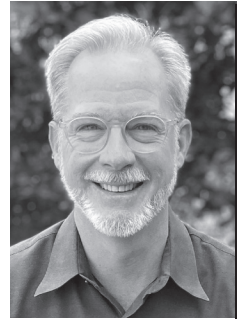
Montero-Michaels Home
508 GOLDENEYE CT.

admission to all other Old Homes Tour & More destinations does require a ticket. The tour, and accompanying events during the week of the tour, are often sold-out weeks in advance so be sure to purchase your tickets early. Also special this year, a nostalgic Seadogs Legacy reception celebration will be held Saturday at The Mainsail Event Center from 5:00pm–7:00pm; **the reception is free** and all are invited to share in the commemoration of Beaufort High School's past, reuniting former students, teachers, administrators, and the community with a celebration of Beaufort heritage.

The Fishhouse Cottage returns to the Old Homes Tour & More for the first time since 2017. If you've never had the opportunity to visit the appealing, authentic Creekside cottage at 2111 Front Street this may be your last opportunity for this living history experience. Faye Styron, who owns and grew up on the property, returns her cottage to the Tour as a reminder to guests and new residents what Beaufort was like in its fishing village days. Fishing industry families occupied small homes like the Fishhouse along Front Street for decades. Exploring the eclectic home and meeting its endearing owner are alone worth purchasing a tour ticket. Faye has also authored a book that is a must have for history lovers of this region. Faye says this is the final printing of the book and she will be selling and signing them from inside the cottage on both days of the tour.
(Sales are cash only for the book, \$35).



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



For the spring/summer season, I am focused on optimism as a touchstone for leadership strategies between myself, the board, our staff, and committee chairs. Optimism is more than a mindset; it's a transformative force that propels us toward achievement. It also fosters resilience and perseverance when obstacles arise, as they certainly do and will.

By leading with optimism, we create an environment where innovation thrives and challenges are seen as opportunities. I believe it is my responsibility to cultivate a positive outlook by encouraging staff, volunteers, donors, and stakeholders to believe in our mission and the relevance of the Beaufort Historical Association and Beaufort Historic Site in our community – today and into the future. Changing times prompt us to adapt and create forward-looking initiatives that inspire us to push boundaries and exceed expectations.

This issue of the Historic Times Quarterly reveals many accomplishments we have achieved in a very short time during 2026. You'll also note there is much more yet to come throughout the year. Together, with a shared optimistic vision and mission, we can achieve remarkable outcomes and maintain standards of excellence long associated with our organization. Thank you for your support and continued involvement.

Warm Regards,

Michael

Michael Tahaney
michael@beauforthistoricsite.org

OPTIMISM

OLD HOMES TOUR & More Accompanying Events

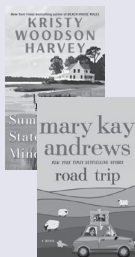
Tour Kickoff Party



SUNDAY, MAY 31 at 4:00pm

Join the BHA at the annual Kickoff Party featuring food, drinks, live music, and beautiful art by Nicole White Kennedy. The highlight of this event is the annual Bartenders Challenge with local and professional bartenders competing for the title. You vote - winner announced at 6:00pm! **TICKETS: \$45**

Co-Sponsors: Amos Mosquito's Restaurant, Chalk & Gibbs



Literary Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 at noon

A special luncheon at the Coral Bay Club featuring NY Times Bestselling Author Kristy Harvey, with her new book, "Summer State of Mind", in conversation with novelist Mary Kay Andrews and her new book, "Road Trip". **TICKETS: \$55**

Sponsored by: Beaufort Dental

Purvis Chapel Choir Concert

THURSDAY, JUNE 25 at 7:00pm

Enjoy an uplifting evening concert at Purvis Chapel, Beaufort's Oldest Church.

TICKETS: \$20

All proceeds go to Purvis Chapel for the ongoing needs of the church

Sponsored by: Greg Moss, Realtor & Facebook, "Why Beaufort NC"



Sunday Toast Cocktail



SUNDAY, JUNE 28 at 1:00pm

This special, new event invites guests to raise a glass in honor of a successful weekend while recognizing the dedicated volunteers, docents, sponsors, staff and supporters who made it all possible. Guests will enjoy champagne, wine, light fare and a delightful selection of toasts - both spoken and served - at the Historic Site Grounds.

Old Homes Tour Guests List Supporters are free, all others require tickets.

TICKETS: \$20 (+tax = \$21.35)

HERITAGE

Seadogs Legacy Celebration

To commemorate the opening of the newly restored and repurposed Mulberry Site Condominium Homes and the Mainsail Event Center, the Beaufort Historical Association is hosting a reception celebration for the community on Saturday, June 27 from 5:00pm-7:00pm in The Mainsail (old gym). This special heritage event will honor town residents who were



students at the former campus or taught and administrated there. We will celebrate the old high school era Seadogs spirit that cheered on their basketball team through 91 straight wins in the 1950s and 1960s whose record still stands as the “winningest” boys’ basketball team in North Carolina history! No ticket required, all curious to see the renovated gym complete with Seadogs memorabilia, decor, and legacy trophies from bygone days are invited to attend the reception.



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Tom Forrester | Elizabeth Gould | Sandy Grotheer | Karen Hardesty
Kristy Harvey | Sherry Jeffery | Cheryl Justice | Liz Kopf | Lynn Mauze
Joyce McCune | Susan McGee | Janice Mills | Michele Moffitt | Jane Morris
Mary Ellen Nixon-Moore | Charlotte Post | Heidi Radford | Wes Ragland
Nancy Smith | Catherine Tahaney | Pat Wesson

Winter/Spring Recaps

The Annual Membership Meeting and Potluck Dinner

The meeting at St. Paul's Church in January had strong attendance that included Beaufort Mayor, Sharon Harker and guest keynote speaker Town Manager, Matt Zapp. The feast was delicious and annual reports were positive from BHA President, Marshall Beach; 1st Vice President, John Phillips; and Executive Director, Michael Tahaney.

Valentine Party

The February Valentine Membership Drive and Party had a noteworthy turnout despite 32-degree weather. The sun did join us and we appreciate everyone who braved the chilly temps and participated. Beautifully prepared and presented food was provided by member volunteers or donated by local business and restaurants. It was a formidable feast. Many members report that the Valentine Party is their favorite event of the year!

Volunteer Training

We had 15 enrolled in Volunteer Training this spring. Sadly, the bus was unavailable for the town tour portion of the day, but we've still got high hopes that the longer than expected wait for the major electrical system rewiring will yield a safer and more reliable bus for the 2026 summer season through year's end.

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th was a fantastic success. A beautiful, warm spring day inspired hundreds of children and their accompanying families to turn up and hunt down over 2,000 eggs filled with candy and prizes. A huge thanks goes to BHA staff, volunteers, and board members who supplied a substantial

amount of candy and helped stuff the eggs, and to the National Charity League who also contributed treats enclosed inside each egg. National Charity League members also hid all the eggs and brought trays of cupcakes and cookies.

The Spring Garden Concert

The concert with the Ian Coury Trio was a delight for those in the audience. Huge thanks go out to Beaufort Event Rentals for Sponsor Level support with the tent/stage/seating, to all Sponsor VIP Ticket purchasers, and to Mary Ellen Nixon-Moore for hosting the musicians. We are optimistic the new Garden Concert Series will continue to gain popularity. The Fall Garden Concert is September 12. Headliner to be announced soon.

The Apothecary Garden Series

The series got off to great start on April 11. We are grateful to have the series under the leadership of Charles Brett, an experienced speaker and expert on all things regarding colonial era healing including herbs, surgery, the apothecary trade, and home remedies of our region's past. The program will work in tandem with the NCSU Master Gardener Volunteers who tend the Apothecary Garden on the Historic Site. Very exciting. Watch our website, the monthly **Beaufort Broadside** email updates, and social media for details on the next session.



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David Jaworski - photographer

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Historic Site Improvement in Progress

The History Shed is almost completed! This new structure on the Site is a replica of a 1700's outbuilding common to colonial era settlements and towns. It will store Living History and Education Program supplies and tools we use for Kindergarten Thanksgiving and Harvest Time. Locating the shed central to the lawn where supplies are easy to access will allow us to expand Living History experiences throughout the year for increased youth and adult engagement. Kudos to our Restoration Specialist, Mike Butler, who with a very small, dedicated team stick built the shed. Details such as solid wood beaded cedar siding and cedar shingles make the shed appear as if it's been there for centuries. It was funded through a charitable grant from the Beaufort Wine & Food organization and a generous donation gift from Carolyn and Doug Brady. Thank you to all who contributed to the project!



The refurbished historic grounds lawn is another significant improvement to the site. With the sprinkler system in major need of repair and restoration new mechanical pieces, parts, and sprinkler heads were installed as old failing grass was lightly tilled away. New topsoil was spread and sod was laid across the entire central portion of the lawn. Remaining lawn areas were overseeded with the same Bermuda grass and as warmer temperatures set in overseeding should begin to fill in and blend with the new sod. Early spring is not ideal for such a project, but with a full calendar of lawn events not doing it was not an option. We thank **LawnMaster NC** for their concerted efforts to assist us with this challenge. After the Spring Garden Concert, Beaufort Wine & Food Spring Fest, and several wedding events it appears to be holding up!

Bell House Kitchen Update: The kitchen remodel is well underway. This project was deemed an improvement priority because it is an essential station for events on the Historic Site lawn. The kitchen previously had no warming capabilities, a shallow sink bowl, and one non-commercial refrigerator. This made the space impractical to facilitate our smaller, non-professional members' events and offered very little on-site support as a catering station to professional caterers for large scale events. Once completed the kitchen will comply with commercial grade surfaces, appliances, sinks, and a dishwashing station assuring our site remains a desirable event venue.

A new sprinkler system for the Manson House Pollinator Garden is another refurbishment venture just completed. Underground system parts had become damaged and sprinkler heads were worn out. Thanks to an initiative by the **NCSU Extension Carteret County Master Gardeners Association**, a new, efficient drip style irrigation system has been installed that will allow beds in this charming formal garden to flourish again. Not only is the garden beautiful, it serves as a classroom for sustainable, eco-friendly gardening practices. Thank you to Shawn Banks, Colette Teachey, Mike Butler, and Master Gardeners volunteers who donated their time and efforts to this worthy project!



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HAPPENINGS

Everything that's made SUMMER PARTY the signature, sold-out event of the season, year after year in Beaufort, is back for 2026. Don't miss the amazing Night Years band, Scarborough Fare's delicious food, a full open bar all night, and a silent auction. Eat, drink, and dance the night away among friends, old and new. **July 11, 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM. Tickets available in June.**



Summer Party

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The America 250 Carteret County Festival

The America 250 Carteret County Festival will be held at the Crystal Coast Civic Center in Morehead City, June 20th honoring the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and Carteret County's extraordinary Revolutionary history. Many family-friendly activities are scheduled from 12 noon until 5:00pm as well as giveaways and prizes for participation. The BHA will be represented among other countywide historic sites, museums, and history organizations with an indoor booth. There will also be vendors and outdoor activities

such as a color guard presentation, colonial games, and dance demonstrations. The BHA



is proud to be presenting a special *Voices of the Past* theatre performance in which our historic interpreters will weave stories and live music together to commemorate North Carolina's colonial era heritage. Watch our website and social media for more details. There will be free parking and food trucks with the aim of facilitating a memorable, day-long celebration for families across Carteret County.

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COMMUNITY

The July 4th on July 3rd Party



As part of BHA's America 250, 1776-2026 celebrations we're hosting a FREE community gathering for kids and adults where the past meets the present. A DJ will entertain with pop hits of today and host short, historical activities from the past throughout the evening featuring 1700's dancing, a cakewalk, colonial games, and more. Food trucks will be on the Historic Site for eats, and beer, wine, and soft drinks will also be available for purchase. This is a family friendly event on the lawn. **NOTE: BRINGING PERSONAL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND/OR COOLERS, SPARKLERS, FIRECRACKERS OR OTHER FIREWORKS ON SITE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.** Do bring your camp chairs or blankets and have fun with history! July 3rd from 4:00pm to 7:00pm on the Beaufort Historic Site grounds. We need volunteers to help with crowd control, facilitate historical activities, and wear 1700s clothing. If you'd like to help, call 252-728-5225 to sign up.

Welcome David Daly, Public Relations Director/Event Coordinator

David Daly continues his long career in multimedia production, communications, marketing and project management as the new Public Relations/Event Coordinator for the Beaufort Historical Association. David, a New Bern native, returned to the Crystal Coast in 2015 after working in Charlotte and Chapel Hill. Speaking of Chapel Hill, he was team manager for the Tar Heels basketball team, cutting down the national championship nets his senior year, produced Coach Dean Smith's television show as well as several documentaries about the program. An avid runner, David logs many miles in and around Beaufort, and directs the popular Beaufort Bridge Run, put on by the Beaufort Lions Club.



FROM THE BHA PRESIDENT

Greetings all, and welcome once again our Very Busy Season. From Kristy Harvey's Literary Brunch on May 3 through our Summer Party on July 11, we need all hands on deck. This year we even have an additional event on July 3 as we celebrate America's 250th birthday. Please support your BHA by attending these events, and volunteering when you can. Get your tickets while they last.

In addition to our festivities and the enormous preparation required, your board is hard at work on various initiatives. For example, a Strategic Planning Committee has been formed to create a vision of what our BHA needs to look like in 1, 3, and 5 years. Step one has been to review and modernize our By-Laws, and you will see our proposed document soon. We are also "reactivating" our Membership Committee under the chairmanship of 1st Vice President John Phillips. We need everyone's support not just to maintain but grow our membership base. Renew your membership when your renewal rolls around, increase your level if you can, and, just as important, recruit your friends!

In closing, I'd like to thank everyone for their support and assistance as Michael has begun his role as Executive Director. He stepped into some big shoes and has done a great job becoming proficient with what got us where we are, while adding his own personal touches (such as two great garden concerts with more to come). But as we all know, it takes a village, and we are blessed to have an incredible staff and wonderful volunteers!!

I look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Marshall Beach

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From Tonja and Phil Whitley
From Rosemary and
Smedes York

BEAUFORT *Historical Association*

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Volunteer Recognition for 2025

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: SHERRY YOUNG



Sherry serves the BHA as an Old Burying Grounds Tour docent. She's a voraciously curious researcher who has discovered some wonderful stories and new information about Beaufort's past that she shares with guests and fellow history lovers. She is also our current primary historic clothing specialist, making everything she wears as well as many of the period clothing pieces worn by our staff and docents. Thank you, Sherry!

"It has been a delight to be a volunteer with the Beaufort Historic Site. Bringing together a passion for historical sewing and stories of the past. I have had the honor to meet and work alongside so many wonderful people. The journey we take to discover long lost stories and share with others is so exciting. I look forward to many more adventures with the Beaufort Historic Site and all the community that supports a lovely treasure we have here in Beaufort, NC. In January, to my surprise, I was awarded Volunteer of the Year for 2025. While I was speechless at the dinner, I would like to say here how very thankful I am to work alongside some of the most dedicated people. You all are my Treasure."

STEWARDSHIP AWARD: MEG FORWARD



Meg Forward has been involved with the BHA since 1972. As an artist, she shows her work at the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery and in the BHA Gift Shop. Since 2021 she has been doing the monthly gallery accounting and calculating the commissions given to artists. Prior to the gallery's existence,

she worked with Laura Piner in 1972 and 1973 at the Fishtown Art Gallery, a summer-only site that preceded the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery (named for Laura Piner's mother). She also helps keep an eye on the Old Burying Grounds by monitoring the donation box and brochures. Eighteen years ago, in 2008, she was selected as BHA Volunteer of the Year.

LONGEVITY AWARD: MARIA APOLLONI



Maria started volunteering at the gallery 20 years ago. In 2014 she became a frequent volunteer and began painting again aided by taking classes with Heather Sink. Soon after, her cards and paintings were featured in the gallery. Maria took over as head of the gallery committee in 2024. She has served as a

house mother and docent during the Old Homes Tours for many years, as well as a conductor on the bus for special events and tours. We thank her for her many years of involvement with the Beaufort Historical Association and for her commitment to our neighborhood arts scene.

NEWCOMER AWARD: GAIL FERNETT



Gail was introduced to the BHA through another dedicated volunteer, Jess Montero-Michaels. Gail initially took a Living History class and was invited to attend Volunteer Training. It's turned into a fortunate match. Her positive, engaging disposition is an asset to the Welcome Center, and she is always ready to lend a helping hand. She is also kind-hearted with the staff and personally prepares special birthday luncheon celebrations throughout the year. Gail, thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

COMMUNITY

Featured Artist Nicole White Kennedy

We are pleased and honored to welcome Nicole White Kennedy as our Featured Artist for the 65th Annual Old Homes Tour & More.



Nicole is a Signature Member of the American Impressionist Society who resides in Raleigh. She is drawn to people and is enamored with street scenes and figures in their environment whether on beaches, in rodeos or at cafes. We're fortunate Beaufort is a favorite location among her chosen subjects.

Nicole has been juried into numerous national exhibits over the past 20 years in person and online winning prestigious awards for her artwork: American Impressionist Society - Best In Show- All Members Online 2025 (Judge - Kenn Backhaus) Southwest Art Magazine Award 2011 - Judge Scott Christensen), earning AIS Signature member status 2017, National Oil & Acrylic Painters Society (Honorable mention 2020 and Figurative Award of Excellence 2016), and Women Painters of the Southeast (Outstanding Figurative 2016). Nicole has been juried into Oil Painters of America National exhibit 2024 and 2025, and Eastern Regional and OPA Salon exhibits many times over the years. In addition Nicole has exhibited in Salmagundi Club venue via Allied Artists of America and National Audubon Artists Society (winning Jack Richeson Award of Excellence 2009 and A. Crimi Oil Award 2012). Nicole has won numerous awards around NC over the years from plein air events to art organization exhibits.

She will be painting on the lawn during the Kickoff Party as part of the fun, and then will transition to the Honored Guest immediately following the Kickoff Party at her official Mattie King Davis Gallery Show Opening from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Tickets are required for the Kickoff Party, but the Gallery Reception is Free. Join Us for either event, or both!



Plein Air Live Painting • Gallery Sales • Artist Reception May 14-15, 2026

The Beaufort Historic Site is proud to be a regional host to the NC Plein Air Art Festival for two days of **live outdoor painting and gallery exhibitions**. On **May 14 and 15**, jury selected artists from across the country and around the world will paint on location throughout Beaufort, transforming the town into an openair



studio. Onlookers are encouraged to locate, watch artists at work, and experience the creative process firsthand as paintings evolve directly from the observed landscape. A small pop-up art sale will happen 4:00pm-6:00pm on May 14 for works painted on Thursday. However, the official **Beaufort Artist Reception and Pop-Up Gallery Sale will happen on Friday, May 15 from 4:00pm-6:00pm**. Join us at the Mattie King Davis Gallery for complimentary wine and charcuterie as we greet the painters and appreciate their accomplished works resulting in a special, two-hour show by our acclaimed guest artists.

**A list of participating artists with preview samples of their past work and schedule is available on the ncpleinair.org home page.*

Celebrating History
Engaging Community

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BEAUFORT HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
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BHA UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 14 & 15

North Carolina Plein Air Art Festival

BHA Grounds

Art Sale and Exhibition will be held on
May 15, 4:00pm-6:00pm

MAY 31 | 4:00PM

**The Old Homes Tour Kickoff Party
& Bartenders Challenge**

BHA Grounds

JUNE 24 | Noon

Old Homes Tour Literary Luncheon

Coral Bay Club, Atlantic Beach

JUNE 25 | 7:00PM

Purvis Chapel Choir Concert

215 Craven St., Beaufort

JUNE 26 & 27 | 10:00AM-4:00PM

65th Annual Beaufort Old Homes Tour

OPTIMISM

Our stories don't live in books; they live in us. The BHA exists to celebrate the vibrant spirit of our community through the history upon which Beaufort was built and the people who define us today. Your engagement is the heartbeat of this mission. When you renew your membership or join us at an event, you aren't just offering a gift or buying a ticket; you are ensuring our town's unique heritage remains a living, breathing part of the future. Together, we don't just remember history; we make it.

