



# The News

OF HISTORIC WILMINGTON FOUNDATION

Holiday Issue 2013 VOLUME 22 ISSUE 2



## Preservation Easements, A Gift of Heritage to the Future

The historic architectural richness of the buildings in Wilmington and the Lower Cape Fear region are the foundation of our past, present, and future. The Historic Wilmington Foundation has been a lead player in the preservation of Wilmington using a creative and powerful tool enacted by Congress: preservation easements.

Preservation easements donated to the Foundation are given in perpetuity to provide protection against threats of demolition and inappropriate alteration. The easement is described as “running with the land” and it will protect the historic building regardless of ownership change. Agricultural, industrial, commercial, and residential structures, as well as important historic acreage, which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or lie within a National Register Historic District, are all eligible for an easement donation.

Along with protection of the building, the owner who donates the easement may be eligible for tax deductions from State and Federal income tax in the form of a charitable contribution. However, every donation is different and donors of easements should consult their tax professional in considering this aspect of an easement donation. After making an easement donation, the owner will maintain all the rights and privileges of property ownership, as well as have the right to sell or lease the property. The protection of the historic building is a partnership between the donor and HWF and the two will meet to discuss any proposed changes or alterations should they be necessary or desired by the owner. The Foundation will conduct periodic inspections of the property to ensure compliance with design standards established in the original agreement. Historic Wilmington is wrapping up a round of site visits with the properties protected by our easements.

Currently the Foundation holds eighty-six easements; these ensure the architectural integrity and protection of various houses, commercial buildings, and even a former church. Recently, HWF received an easement donation on the 508 Wooster Street house (featured in this newsletter) to protect the historic home. The gift of an easement to the Foundation (like the one on Wooster Street) is a strong statement of an owner's commitment to preservation and his or her desire to ensure that their building will exist for future generations to use and enjoy. Without the easement program we might be leaving our own heritage up to fate.

Many buildings could have been saved had there been an easement on the properties. HWF's Easement Program is the most effective tool to protect and preserve our built heritage. Take action in this wonderful community by standing up for preservation and donating an easement on your building to the Foundation. It is a gift of heritage to the future. For more information and assistance about donating an easement on your property, please contact George W. Edwards, Executive Director, at 910.762.2511 or [edwards@historicwilmington.org](mailto:edwards@historicwilmington.org).



*602 Chestnut Street is protected by an easement*

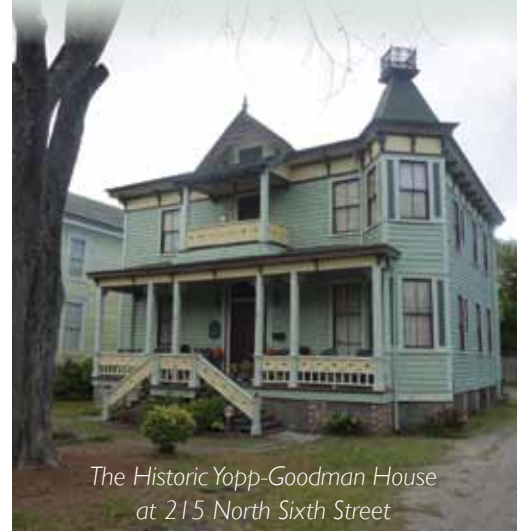
*Right: Intern Krielow Chamberlain conducting a site visit on one of the Foundation's easement properties.*



## azalea festival Home Tour

APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> & 13<sup>TH</sup>

As the weather grows colder, the Foundation is already thinking of spring, and of course spring means the Azalea Festival Home Tour! Save the date for Saturday, April 12th and Sunday, April 13th. We are in the midst of planning and we can tell you that the homes for the 2014 tour are spectacular. Linda and Richard Mechling's home, the Neil M. McEachern House, will be on the Tour (it was previewed during the 2013 Post-Thanksgiving Home Tour). Mary Ann Keiser's Home at 215 North 6th Street will be featured (as seen in recent *Salt* magazine) along with the Williams Belden House at 114 South 4th Street. We'll also have great examples of Wilmington architecture from Carolina Heights and Carolina Place as well as St. Stephen A.M.E. Church at 501 Red Cross Street. As a reminder, member specials will be available. **Make your plans for the tour now!**



*The Historic Yopp-Goodman House at 215 North Sixth Street*

**INSIDE: Call for Nominations p.3 • Call for Tour Guide Volunteers p.4 & p.5**

## FALL 2013 INTERNS

Danyelle Hall - Danyelle is from Inverness, FL, and is a senior at UNCW graduating this fall with a bachelor's degree in History. After graduation Danyelle hopes to enter a career in Public History.

Caroline Dempsey - Caroline, a senior at UNCW, interned during the fall 2013 semester. Originally from Greensboro, NC, Caroline will finish her senior year at UNCW with a double major in Communication and French. After graduation Caroline hopes to pursue a career in public relations for non-profits.



Interns Hall and Dempsey

We thank Danyelle and Caroline for all of their hard work and wish them success in the future!

## History's Future

Formed in 2011, "History's Future" is a special membership group of the Historic Wilmington Foundation designed to engage a young audience. History's Future members and Foundation trustees, Walker Abney and Ford Williams, share their excitement for upcoming events in 2014, as well as for the increase of interest in the program after the History's Future Pool Tournament. Abney describes one of the goals of the program as "trying to raise awareness of what the Foundation is doing and to get the message out to a younger group and get them involved." The mission of History's Future is to motivate its members to take an interest in the city's treasures and take stock of its heritage. We aim to accomplish this initiative through educational programs on historic preservation and cultural and social events. Since its start two years ago, History's Future has hosted six events ranging from a Pub Crawl in 2012 to a Trivia Night at Hell's Kitchen in the spring and a Pool Tournament at Orton's Pool Room earlier this fall. History's Future looks forward to hosting a spring and fall event in 2014.



History's Future members enjoying a recent get together

To find out more about "History's Future" and upcoming events for 2014 contact us at [membership@historicwilmington.org](mailto:membership@historicwilmington.org) or 910-762-2511. Or like us on Facebook.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Historic Wilmington Foundation 48th Annual Meeting

**JANUARY 23, 2014**

at the Hannah Block Historic USO in Downtown Wilmington

Historic Wilmington Foundation business meeting and Board of Trustee election

Featured Speaker:

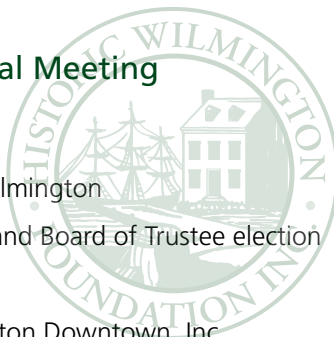
Ed Wolverton, New President and CEO of Wilmington Downtown, Inc.

**6:00pm-8:00pm**

A Reception will Follow the Meeting

Please RSVP: 910.762.2511 or [membership@historicwilmington.org](mailto:membership@historicwilmington.org)

*Support for the meeting provided by Block, Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed, LLP*



## HISTORIC WILMINGTON FOUNDATION

2011 MARKET STREET  
WILMINGTON, NC 28403  
910.762.2511

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DANYELLE HALL AND CAROLINE DEMPSEY,

INTERNS

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Historic Wilmington Foundation is to protect and preserve the irreplaceable historic resources of Wilmington and the lower Cape Fear Region.



# 2013 Preservation Award Winners

Historic Wilmington proudly recognizes and welcomes the following leaders

1. Herman and Suzanne Smith for rehabilitation and restoration of their home, the historic Captain Cook House, 321 South 4th Street.
2. Murchison, Taylor and Gibson, PLLC for rehabilitation of their offices in the Knohl House and the Polley-Morrison House, 16 & 18 North 5th Street.
3. Marc and Christina Erichsen for appropriate and compatible new construction of their home in the Carolina Place neighborhood, 2021 Perry Avenue.
4. Denis and Patricia McGarry for rehabilitation and restoration of the King-Meares House which included the conversion of the multi-apartment building into a single-family home, 326 South 3rd Street.
5. Libby and Maureen Beccarino for appropriate new construction of an urban townhouse at 112 & 114 Orange Street.

6. Edwin and Gail Peacock of Peacock Family Business, LLC for rehabilitation and restoration of the Whitlock Building in downtown Wilmington, 22-24 North Front Street.

22-24 North Front Street.

7. T.J. and Judy Porter for rehabilitation and restoration of the Alexander Sprunt House, 1615 Chestnut Street.

8. St. James Parish for rehabilitation and restoration of the sanctuary building of St. James Parish, 25 South 3rd Street. The award was received by the Reverend Ron Abrams and Senior Warden Frank Gibson.

9. Daniel and Kathrine Maheu for rehabilitation and restoration of their home, 614 South 3rd Street.

10. Greg Wessel for creative rehabilitation and restoration of a house and former neighborhood store into a single-family home, 209 Castle Street.

11. Delinda Harrelson for preservation award of merit for rehabilitation and restoration of her home, 1817 Ann Street.

12. Ann Mizerak, Mary Bakan, and David Mizerak for preservation award of special merit of protection and preservation of the St. Peter and St. Paul Russian Orthodox Church in St. Helena, Pender County.

13. Katherine Howell Award: N.C. Rep. Susi Hamilton for her leadership, her counsel, and her significant contributions to Historic Wilmington Foundation to help further the mission to protect and preserve the irreplaceable historic resources of Wilmington and the Lower Cape Fear region.

*In addition to the Foundation's honors, the following awards were handed out at the ceremony:*

*Residents of Old Wilmington Good Neighbor Award: Margaret and Darwin Ferry to honor their exemplary good works and actions and unselfish service to neighbors.*

*Wilmington Downtown Inc. Ben Halterman Award: George W. Edwards for outstanding preservation leadership*

## CALL FOR 2014 PRESERVATION AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Each May during National Preservation Month the Historic Wilmington Foundation celebrates individuals and groups whose contributions demonstrate excellence in historic preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and compatible new infill construction. By identifying exceptional projects the Foundation strives to educate the community on the importance of preservation and the role historic structures

play in building community identity. Nominations must be received by April 7, 2014. For more details on National Preservation Month and to access the nomination form please visit our website [www.historicwilmington.org](http://www.historicwilmington.org). Please help us identify the best preservation work in our community. [www.historicwilmington.org](http://www.historicwilmington.org).

### Know of a threatened site that is important to our community's heritage?

Help spotlight a threatened historic site! HWF is accepting nominations for the 2014 Most Threatened Historic Places list. The Most Threatened Historic Places list will be announced in May of 2014 during National Preservation Month. Nominations must be received by April 3, 2014! To access the nomination form please visit [www.historicwilmington.org](http://www.historicwilmington.org)



# the Vintage event

HWF's third Vintage Event Fall fundraiser was held on Friday, October 25th. It was our most successful to date. Monte Coughlin, MC, led our guests through a delightful evening. Susan Savia and Savoire Faire entertained before the live auction with Susan's signature jazz blend. Timmy Evans, auctioneer, got the crowd bidding for some great live auction items including a signed scripts from 'Under the Dome' and 'NCIS' and a day on set 'Under the Dome'. The live auction concluded with the drawing for the winner of our 'Stock your Wine Cellar Raffle' (valued at over \$500). The entertainment for the second half

of the evening featured Nina Repeta with Rog & Madafo. Their individual talents brought a depth of musical flavor to the show of swinging jazz standards and soothing bossa novas. The over 100 silent auction offerings were expansive from antiques and wine to gift certificates and experience packages. Four lucky winners of our Vintage Event Costume Contest won a picnic lunch excursion to Masonboro on a wooden skiff courtesy of Masonboro Skiff Company. HWF thanks the Vintage Event Committee, sponsors, volunteers, donors, restaurants and caterers (that generously donated food) and to all of those that attended the event!



*Tour Guide Bob Grady on the stairs of Saint Paul Lutheran discussing the architecture of historic churches and synagogues in our community*

## TAR HEELS GO WALKING CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS!

December concludes the fifth year of the Tar Heels Go Walking Program. Since 2009 the Historic Wilmington Foundation has partnered with New Hanover County Schools to introduce third graders to their downtown and its services, institutions, history and architecture. In that time the program has led hundreds of tours and introduced thousands of children and their parents to the history, historic preservation, architecture and public art of downtown Wilmington. The

Foundation is devoted to providing this valuable experience to our youth in hopes that they might gain a better appreciation for the historic buildings and our community heritage. Thank you to all of our dedicated guides who have helped make Tar Heels the success it is. We look forward to the next five years! To become a tour guide for the 2014 season contact us now at [edwards@historicwilmington.org](mailto:edwards@historicwilmington.org) or at 910.762.2511!

TAR HEELS GO WALKING 5 YEAR TOTALS

**12,000**  
3RD GRADERS

**1,000**  
PARENTS

**500**  
TEACHERS





*Pictured from left to right: New Hanover Co. Library Director Harry Tuchmayer, HWF Executive Director George Edwards, and HWF Board President Michael Murchison introduce the 2013 exhibit to the public.*



*Brunswick County librarian Signa Simpson and a library patron examine the new exhibit in the Southport library.*

Our 2013-2014 Most Threatened Historic Places traveling exhibit is on the road again and in a location near you! The exhibit highlights the region's most threatened historic places and illustrates the importance of historic preservation within our community. The MTHP exhibit will be moving locations approximately every three weeks until April.

**Location**

- Brunswick County, Oak Island Branch
- Brunswick County, Shallotte Branch
- Brunswick County, Leland Branch
- UNCW Randall Library
- New Hanover County, Myrtle Grove Branch

**Date**

- Mon Dec 9 – Fri Dec 27
- Mon Dec 30 – Fri Jan 17
- Mon Feb 3 – Fri Feb 21
- Mon Feb 24 – Fri Mar 14
- Mon Mar 17 – Fri Apr 4

**Inquire about the exhibit visiting your site during 2014-2015.**  
 Contact George Edwards at [Edwards@historicwilmington.org](mailto:Edwards@historicwilmington.org) or call us at (910)762-2511

## A Successful First Year for the Guided Architectural Walking Tours!

October concluded the first year of HWF's new guided walking tours: Forest Hills and the Streetcar Suburbs. Volunteer guides led over 300 people on high energy tours that highlighted the special qualities of the neighborhoods and promoted recognition for how their history contributes to Wilmington's quality of life. Tour guide Elaine Henson recalled that, "Many in the local group were transplants who had moved to Wilmington and wanted to know more about the local history and some were longtime residents of Forest Hills who added a lot to the tour." Ogden Allsbrook, a long-time resident, described the tour by stating, "The research and presentation of the tour made it beneficial for even native Wilmingtonians who could gain additional knowledge about Wilmington's history." Carolyn and Kim Loucks shared their experience as first-time guides, stating that, "It was truly exciting to be a part of something new that added to people's appreciation and understanding about



*Tour guide Carol Worth (center) leads a group on the Streetcar tour.*

Wilmington and the Forest Hills neighborhood and the architecture of the area." Loucks concluded, "We look forward to growth of the program, and learning more about the area in 2014."

Tours will begin in April 2014 and run into November 2014.

**Interested in serving as a tour guide?**

Please contact George Edwards at 910-762-2511 or [Edwards@historicwilmington.org](mailto:Edwards@historicwilmington.org)

*Major support provided by*



# NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Note: Members who have increased their level of giving are noted in italics.  
New & Renewing Members for Jan. & Feb. 2013 were listed in the Spring 2013 Newsletter.

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# MARCH 2013 - NOVEMBER 2013

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## Foundation Saves Properties

In the fall of 2007, HWF purchased 508 Wooster Street, a shotgun cottage listed as a historic contributing structure in the Wilmington National Register Historic District. The house had been condemned and was slated for demolition. The Foundation employed its revolving fund to rehabilitate and the secure the future of the property. HWF is pleased to announce that 508 Wooster was recently sold with a protective preservation easement in place!

The historic Waddell House, located at 422 South Front Street, was secured recently through a generous donation by its owner, Mary Ellen Bramble. The two-story, side-passage house with Italianate influences was built circa 1898. Ms. Bramble's donation will enable the Foundation to protect the house with a preservation easement in place and make it available for purchase and rehabilitation.

HWF continues to support the preservation of properties through the use of revolving funds and protective easements, adhering to the belief that preservation is an effective strategy to secure Wilmington's historic buildings and quality of life for future generations.



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