



# MuseLetter



Volume I, Issue I

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## Upcoming Exhibits

- **April, May and June**  
Native Americans Exhibit
- **May 17, 2008**  
Museum Day 9am - 12pm
- **May 31, 2008**  
Native American Tools 10am - 12pm
- **July**  
Horry Independent Photographs  
Exhibit
- **August and September**  
Tobacco Exhibit

## The Waccamaw, A Modern Awakening of an Ancient Culture

The earliest explorers in this region described the "Chicora" people as what is today considered part of the Mississippian Culture.

By the time Desoto arrived in South Carolina the strength of the once great nation had already begun to diminish. It is assumed that Native American traders from Spanish Florida had already brought disease north with them into South Carolina and the effect had been devastating to the Carolina based empire of Cofitachequi.

By the time the explorer Pardo came to South Carolina the people in the land called Waccamaw were few in number with a total population of only a few hundred in three small villages. The ancient Waccamaw were river dwellers that lived along the Waccamaw River



covering an area that reached from North Carolina's Lake Waccamaw to Winyah Bay in Georgetown, South Carolina. The Waccamaw are the first tribe in the State of South Carolina to obtain official recognition from the South Carolina Office of Vital Statistics.

The modern Waccamaw have found a renewed sense of culture and spirituality by assimilating Eastern and western spiritual and traditional practices into their modern culture. They celebrate this awakening through gatherings and Pauwas at the Waccamaw Tribal grounds near Aynor, South Carolina. These gatherings provide the community an opportunity to educate the public about their ancient and modern culture, tell stories, and celebrate spirituality.

Throughout the months of April, May, and June the Horry



County Museum will host, "The First South Carolinians: The Life and Times of Native People in the Palmetto State", a traveling exhibit from the South Carolina State Museum. The museum has also developed an additional component of the exhibit that focuses on the local Waccamaw people and has on display many artifacts from the Waccamaw culture. Events and programs about the modern and ancient Waccamaw people will be held at the museum. Please contact the Horry County Museum for more information



## What's Been Happening at The Horry County Museum ?

It has been a while since most of you have seen a newsletter from us. Please understand that it is not from lack of concern on our part. The museum has undergone many changes over the last year. We have been focusing much of our attention on expanding school programs and outreach exhibits, increasing in-house receptions and events, continuously working on our growing collection, developing current changing exhibits, developing future exhibits, working with the Board, Friends, and Foundation to raise money for the new exhibits, and moving forward on the L.W. Paul Historical Farm Project. Throw in staff changes, a countywide hiring freeze, and an employee on maternity leave and you really have some challenges to face. Unfortunately, that often leaves elements like the newsletter low on the list. So, with additional volunteer manpower we are going to try to keep up with a newsletter again so that those of you who are unable to be closer to our events, programs, and meetings can keep up with the great strides we have been and will be making in the upcoming months.

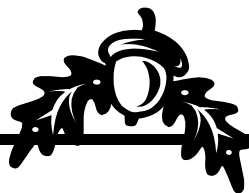
First, the Burroughs School Project. Many of you have been faithfully watching the progress we have been making on this front. Although it looks as if nothing ever happens over there we have been making progress. Due to the fact that we are dealing with a 103 year old building every move we make has to be conscientious about what the building is, what it has been, and how we can make it into something new while still maintaining the historical integrity of the structure. Most of you are familiar with the building when it was used for county offices. Over the years modernization has covered much of what was once the school house on the interior and our next step will be to uncover these modern additions in the form of secondary office walls, carpet and tile over old hardwood floors, ceiling tiles, and wiring. This preliminary work will hopefully be accomplished over the next few months.

After the clean-up we will be able to go in and begin construction of our staircase and aquarium. These components will be built in first because of the special nature of their construction and the unique manner that the building has to adapt to them.

Over the next few months we will write about other exhibits that will be found in the new museum. In the meantime you are invited to come by the museum and take a look at the designs we have on display and see our project model.

Until Then,

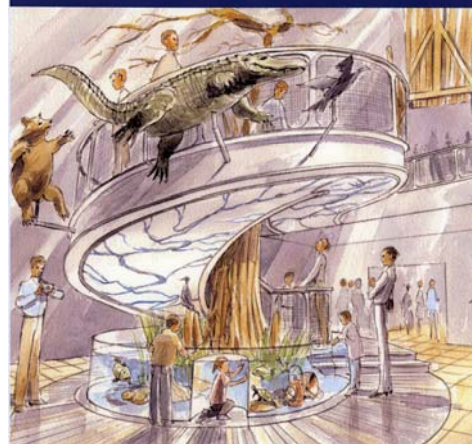
*Walter*



### Some Interesting Burroughs School Facts

- Much of the original hardwood flooring is still intact under several layers of tile and carpet. Refinishing of the original floors will preserve part of the original fabric of this building and save money!
- The current portico is in disrepair. Our builders will be restoring the portico back to the original 1905 look.
- The Burroughs School is on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### LIFE ALONG THE RIVER GALLERY BLACKWATER AQUARIUM



Artist Rendering of what the central staircase and aquarium will look like. A visitor can symbolically travel across the geography of Horry County with the aid of flora, fauna, and waterways in Horry County representing the Coast, Marshes, River Tributaries, Black Water Swamps, Carolina Bays, and Pinelands. Besides providing visitors a thoroughfare from one floor to the next, this staircase will educate. A highlight of this exhibit will be the living black water aquarium at the base.

# FARM PROJECT GROWS



Anyone passing by the intersection of Hwy 701 north and Harris Short Cut road can see some changes. A little over a year ago County Council designated the 17 + acre piece of property that was part of the Pineridge Business Park for use as the L.W. Paul Historical Farm Project. Several years ago Mr. Larry Paul, a Conway native, approached the museum about making a sizable donation of artifacts to the museum. His large collection of Waccamaw Indian artifacts were a perfect fit for our collection, part of this collection is on display now. However, the majority of his collection represented the agriculture and domestic lifestyles of the average Horry County farmer in the first half of the 20th century. Unfortunately, large items in this collection as well as other large agricultural items in our current collection would require too much space to exhibit in the Burroughs School. An idea was hatched to create a living history farm to tell the story of the one horse farm family. With the County's land, Larry's artifacts and a large monetary donation from him plans were laid to begin development of the L.W. Paul Historical Farm.

The idea here is to have visitors come to the Museum on Main Street and learn about the history of Horry County beginning with the fossil record of this area on up to the modern development of the Grand Strand. The visitor can then travel to the Farm and participate in a hands –on learning experience.

The farm will include a visitor's center, traditional farm house, livestock barn, pack house, tobacco barn, outhouse, smoke house, chicken coop, hog pen, mule, milk cow, farm garden, blacksmith shop, grist mill, and syrup shed. We will grow on this farm traditional crops such as, tobacco, corn, cotton, peanuts, and potatoes.

We now have Mr. Wayne Skipper helping as a farm consultant in the layout and construction of this project. He has built a smokehouse and out house on the site and is currently working on a log hog pen and tobacco barn. He has also started a farm garden to be used this year with the summer children's programs and will be planting tobacco for use at the friend's Tobacco Heritage Day.

An exciting part of this project has been the traditional use of the local resources. All trees that had to be removed and were large enough to be used have been sawn into lumber or hewed into poles for construction on the site. Making this a truly GREEN Project!

**A special thanks goes out to all the people who have helped on this project so far.**



Friends of the Horry County Museum plant first garden at the farm.



Outhouse on the farm. The basin for this privy is made of concrete and is what is often referred to as a \$5.00 outhouse because in the 30's a homeowner could purchase this manufactured privy basin from the government for \$5! This basin comes from a neighboring farm and gives us a great opportunity to bring another historical artifact into the construction of this project



Smokehouse on the farm with completed door and hardware.

# HORRY COUNTY MUSEUM

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## The Muse News from the Friends of the Horry County Museum

The New Year has been a busy one for the Friends. **January** was a time for reflection and goal setting for a busy 2008. Having Friends represented at all museum events and increasing membership were two top resolutions. Fun and fundraising marked the **February** Blacksmith Workshop where Friends helped host the event and held a bake sale. Later in February, Friends participated in the annual Quilt Gala helping to greet the large crowds during the two-day event and collecting important data from attendees that large crowds during the two-day event and collecting important data from attendees that were a mix of local people and visitors from across the United States and abroad. During **March**, Friends were on hand to support a number of museum events including a reception honoring Quilt Gala volunteers and winners and programs designed to increase deaf awareness and history. There was even an opportunity to sample the fare of "Dr. Fishbone" at a book signing. In **April**, planning for the annual Tobacco Heritage Festival (August 2, 2008) began in earnest. This year is

especially exciting since the tobacco used for the festival is being cultivated on the Museum's own farm. Friends participated in the first planting of the Farm garden under the supervision of Mr. Wayne Skipper. The Farm still needs volunteers for the numerous building and planting projects in the future. Finally, in April, Friends were well represented at a reception honoring the Waccamaw Indian Tribe and celebrating Native American culture in South Carolina. **May** promises to be filled with the same level of excitement with Museum Day and a program relating to Native American culture as two highlights.

What do the Friends do? It's a fair question, but not an easy one. Some Friends might help build a traditional tobacco barn or plow with a mule. Others might volunteer as speakers or help host Museum events. If someone has a talent or a passion, being a Friend can provide the opportunity to get involved. Remember the regular monthly meetings on the second Thursday at 4:30 pm at the Museum, and as always, **"BRING A FRIEND!"**



2008 Quilt Gala



Dr. Fishbone's book signing



Tobacco Heritage Festival 2007