

Winter 2007

# Inthemion

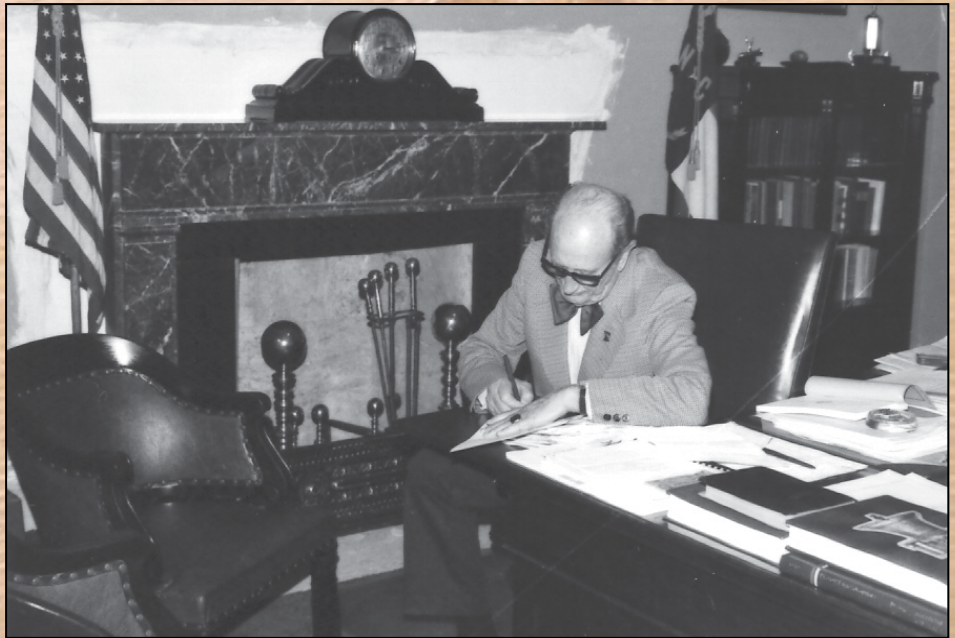
## North Carolina State Capitol Foundation

### Foundation Marks 30 Years of Service to the Capitol and Looks Toward the Future

By Terra Steinbeiser

When Secretary of State Thad Eure signed the articles of incorporation in his trademark green ink to create The State Capitol Foundation, Inc., the organization began laying the groundwork to make the Capitol into the attractive and authentically restored site that over 100,000 visitors a year experience when they visit today.

Since October 4, 1976, the Foundation has operated as a non-profit support corporation that assists the state of North Carolina in maintaining, preserving, restoring, furnishing, equipping, and interpreting the State Capitol and Union Square. The idea of establishing such an organization began with Dr. Larry Tise, then the director of the State Division of Archives and History (DAH), and John L. Sanders, who currently serves as the Foundation's first vice president. In the early 1970s, H.G. Jones, another past director of the DAH, and Governor Robert W. Scott advocated the rehabilitation and preservation of the 1840 Capitol for future generations as a site for public education on the history and functions of North Carolina's government. Following substantial appropriations by the legislature in 1971 and 1973 for some long-overdue building rehabilitation, Tise and Sanders realized that a support group could be instrumental in raising necessary funds to accomplish the goal of properly furnishing the Capitol to its 1840-1865 appearance. Thus, the State Capitol Foundation, then composed of several civic-



*In his office on the first floor of the Capitol, Secretary of State Thad Eure signed the document that created The State Capitol Foundation. Oct. 4, 1976.*

minded citizens from across the state, was born. Sanders served as president of the Foundation from 1976-1991.

By the third meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors in February 1977, members had fully established the Foundation's purpose and made plans to solicit former legislators to fund the restoration of the 1840 chairs and desks in the House and Senate Chambers.

Additionally, the Board called on Michael O. Smith, furnishings curator for the DAH, to submit his report titled "Furnishings Data for the State Capitol." The report contained general descriptions of the items needed to furnish each room of the Capitol, estimates of room-by-room costs of these items, and floor

*Continued on page 3*



Edward T. Davis

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the The North Carolina State Capitol Foundation. The Foundation was established to further the educational opportunities at the Capitol and to encourage the continual restoration and interpretation of this, North Carolina's most important civic building. The Oct. 23, 2006, State Capitol Foundation Board meeting provided an opportunity to look back on the significant accomplishments that have been realized over the last thirty years and to thank the persons that have worked hard on this National Historic Landmark's behalf.

It was a special privilege to thank two founding Board members – Mrs. Godfrey “Sis” Cheshire and Mr. William W. Dodge III with certificates of appreciation for their foresight and service. And, of course, all mention of the scholarly interpretation and physical care of the Capitol should begin with acknowledging the ongoing contributions of John Sanders. As a token of our thanks, John was presented with a framed letter from Governor Hunt citing the “thanks of a grateful state.”

The October meeting also marked the end of Barbara Boney's tenure as Foundation president. Over the past seven years, Barbara has left an amazing legacy. Among her many accomplishments as president, Barbara presided over the two State Capitol Foundation and Society Galas, raising a total of \$240,290. Additionally, she worked to keep the Capitol open to the public on weekends in spite of a state budget shortfall in 2002 and encouraged giving by active and former SCF board members while expanding corporate giving, resulting in gifts from Blue Cross Blue Shield of N.C. totaling \$90,000. Barbara left the Foundation well-equipped to carry on the new initiatives and long-range goals she implemented during her presidency.

The Board was privileged to present Barbara with The Order of the Longleaf Pine, which was granted to her by Gov. Mike Easley, as well as establish the Barbara H. Boney Publications Fund. This Fund was started by gifts from Board members in honor of Barbara's service to the Capitol. All persons interested in contributing towards Capitol educational publications are encouraged to donate to this fund by contacting Diana Mauney at 919-733-4994 or via e-mail, [diana.mauney@ncmail.net](mailto:diana.mauney@ncmail.net).

The Foundation is pleased to welcome new members of the Board. Please visit page six to learn more about these newest additions to our leadership.

The agreements have been fully executed for the work on the south side of Union Square funded by the NC Department of Transportation and the Department of Administration. This work will include the rehabilitation of the sidewalks designed by the Olmsted Brothers in 1928, which will make the walkways fully accessible to the handicapped, as well as the partial restoration of Washington Plaza. Fayetteville Street, “North Carolina's Main Street” has been reopened. The Capitol serves as an appropriate architectural punctuation to the avenue. It is my intention that the Capitol and Union Square occupy increasingly more active roles in the civic and cultural activities of downtown Raleigh. The Capitol has long been the symbol of state government in North Carolina and a symbol for the city of Raleigh. As downtown Raleigh begins to realize its potential, the Capitol will serve as a venue for an increasing variety of cultural and educational activities. Exciting times are in the offing! Please join us in continuing to support this important National Historic Landmark.

## *Anthemion*

A Publication of The State Capitol Foundation,  
Inc. and The State Capitol Society

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*Anthemion* is published quarterly by The State Capitol Foundation to provide information about and build support for North Carolina's State Capitol. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please contact *Anthemion* Editor & Designer Terra Steinbeiser at 919-715-3962 or via e-mail: [terra.steinbeiser@ncmail.net](mailto:terra.steinbeiser@ncmail.net)

For more information about the State Capitol, visit our Web site at [www.ncstatecapitol.org](http://www.ncstatecapitol.org), or call 919-733-4994.



## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary *Continued from cover*

plans showing the proposed arrangement of each room to assist the Board in seeking donations. These actions kicked off three decades of raising money not only to establish and improve educational programs, but also to fund the on-going restoration and re-furnishing of North Carolina's Capitol.

During the 1980s, the Foundation organized and executed an ambitious fund-raising campaign that targeted all living legislators, as well as corporations, foundations, and individuals committed to completing the furnishing and restoration of the Capitol. The Foundation also sought funds to develop audio-visual programs and publications about the Capitol and its significance to North Carolina's history. In the late 1980s, the Foundation held several annual Christmas party fundraisers, the predecessors of the more recent State Capitol Society Balls. The 1988 Christmas fundraiser, which featured CBS newsmen and North Carolina native Charles Kuralt as the speaker, proved especially successful, netting \$6,200 for the Capitol's education

and restoration programs.

As you will see below, The State Capitol Foundation, Inc. has been truly instrumental in authentically restoring the Capitol to its 1840 appearance. And yet, members of the Foundation continue to set their sights on loftier goals for the Capitol's future. The Foundation will continue to search for historic furnishings, as well as to restore and maintain those currently in the collection. There are plans to re-create the early appearances of additional interior rooms for interpretation; to establish in-depth educational programs and publications; and to create a perpetual endowment assuring the permanence of programs to preserve and interpret the Capitol. Finally, the Foundation plans to call public and legislative attention to the needs of the Capitol as well as the need for an interpretive center. There is no doubt that the next thirty years will surely be as productive for the Foundation and as beneficial for the Capitol as the last thirty years have been.

## *Selection of Accomplishments, 1976-2006\**

- Restoration of the 1840 legislative furnishings, replacement of the original legislative chairs with suitable reproductions, and acquisition of period furnishings throughout the building since 1976 (private donations)
- Raised funds for research & recreation of the nineteenth century pattern for legislative carpeting (private donations)
- Re-created the State Library, State Geologist's Office, and furnishing of the Governor's Office (Sir Walter Cabinet, NC Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, & private donations)
- Restoration of the statues and monuments on Union Square in 1981-82 and 1996-98 (Woman's Club of Raleigh, NC Sons of Confederate Veterans, NC United Daughters of the Confederacy, NC Society of the Cincinnati, and private donations)
- Restoration of Thomas Constantine's 1823 Senate Speaker's chair and Senate desk chair from the State House and production of an exhibit case about the State House (Woman's Club of Raleigh & the Sir Walter Cabinet)
- Funded research from 1990-93 for the paint analysis of the interior finishes of the Capitol



- Establishment of a membership arm, the State Capitol Society, to increase public awareness of the historical significance of the Capitol
- Full-size reproduction of the 1841 Horton & Waller Lithograph frame for the House of Representatives Chamber (NC DAR) Restoration of surviving 1841 frame in Senate Chamber (NC Society of Colonial Dames)
- Restoration of the ca. 1818 Thomas Sully Portrait of George Washington (the Council of State & Raleigh Fine Arts Society)



- Conservation of the 1970 copy of Antonio Canova's statue of George Washington (NC Society of the Cincinnati)
- Funded printing of self-guided tour brochure of the Capitol and grounds
- Raised \$120,137 at the State Capitol Society Ball in April 2006

\* Complete list available at [www.ncstatecapitol.org](http://www.ncstatecapitol.org)

## *With Gratitude*

The State Capitol Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generosity of those individuals and corporations who made contributions to the Foundation over the past year. Gifts appearing here were given between October 2005 and October 2006.

### **The Angus Barn:**

*Donation of wine for semi-annual docent dinners*

### **Holly Fuller:**

*Gift of custom-made pad for the protection of the West Committee Room table*

### **Concord Engineering and Survey, Inc.:**

*Conducted a comprehensive topographic survey of Union Square, valued at \$35,407*

### **The Caswell-Nash Chapter of the DAR:**

*Gift of \$1,347 in honor of Adaline Pasour and Edith Calhoun (Reception Desk Sponsor)*

### **The E.A. Morris Charitable Foundation:**

*Gift of \$25,000 for the creation of the James S. Lofton Fund. This fund will promote Capitol restoration and educational programs*

### **Alexander Charitable Foundation:**

*Gift of \$1,800 to fund the purchase and restoration of the 1844 Mitchell map that hangs in the West Committee Room. In honor of Shirley H. Alexander*

### **SCF Board of Directors:**

*Members made donations totalling \$555 to establish the Barbara H. Boney Publications Fund*

## Capitol, NCSU Team Up on Carpet Research

*Story and Photos by Terra Steinbeiser*

Since the moment a fragment of maroon and gold Brussels weave carpet was first discovered in the Senate attic in 1992, Site Manager and Historian Raymond Beck has followed every possible research lead to determine if the Anglo-Turkish style scrap could be from the carpet purchased for the legislative chambers in either 1854 or 1866. The current House and Senate Chamber carpeting was installed in 1976 and in-depth research has concluded that neither starred carpet existed. Beck, along with Research and Collections Manager Tiffianna Honsinger, decided to go the scientific route with this query and turned to the experts at North Carolina State University's College of Textiles for forensic help in finding conclusive evidence of the carpet's age.

In July 2006, Beck and Honsinger met with Dr. Harold S. Freeman, Associate Dean for Research, and Department head Dr. Keith R. Beck (no relation) at NCSU's Department of Textile Engineering, Chemistry and Science. Raymond Beck hoped these textile experts would be able to perform dye analysis on the scrap to determine a benchmark date of the dyes used in the carpet. It was hoped that by determining the age of the dyes, a clearer picture of the possible date of manufacture would emerge to resolve whether or not the scrap could be from an early carpet that was used in the Capitol in the 1850s or '60s. The colors of the fragment match those suggested for the House and Senate Chambers.

In a meeting room on NCSU's Centennial Campus, Dr. Freeman and Dr. Beck examined the carpet carefully and pulled small fibers out of the sample one at a time, rubbing them between their fingers to separate the threads for a closer look. To the naked eye, the carpet appears to be made of wool with a cellulose (plant-based) backing. Dr. Freeman extracted a thin red thread of carpet and dropped it into a small amount of rubbing alcohol, swirling it around and looking at it carefully for several minutes. "I suspected that alizarin was the dye used for this carpet, but the color in the thread did not dissolve," Freeman said. "Had the color run in the rubbing alcohol, it would indicate that alizarin was one of the dyes used." Alizarin is a red dye that is derived from the root of the madder plant and in 1869, it became the first natural pigment to be duplicated synthetically. The carpet would require more than just this simple test.

Dr. Freeman and Dr. Beck removed five strands of each colored yarn and the undyed yarn backing





*Raymond Beck looks on as Dr. Harold Freeman inspects the soiled and worn 46-inch strip of carpet found in the Senate attic in 1992.*

for identification. They explained that they would need to examine the fibers under a microscope to conclude whether the carpet was made of pure wool, or if other materials were present as well. They also planned to employ the use of powerful solvents to remove the colorants for further testing. This type of test allows the type of dye (or dyes) to become evident in the lab as chemists track which solvent eventually dissolves the color in the samples. "Once we identify the dyes, we can research the time periods that these dyes were used and that should give us a better idea of the date of this carpet," Dr. Beck said.

Last November, Dr. Freeman submitted his report to the Capitol regarding the carpet fragment analysis. Freeman's report detailed how fiber characterization was performed via microscopic analysis, while dye characterization was performed by comparing extracts of the sampled yarns with authentic dyes thought to have been used for dyeing wool in the mid-to-late 1800s. The types of authentic dyes used for comparison were influenced by information received from Linda Eaton, curator of textiles at the Winterthur Museum in Delaware.

Following dye extractions, Dr. Freeman and his team concluded that synthetic yellow and red dyes were present, prompting them to acquire samples of dyes on Eaton's suggested list for comparison. During the carpet fragment analysis, textile specialists used a process known as thin-layer chromatography to compare carpet fiber extracts with purchased authentic dye samples, as a basis for tentative carpet dye identification. Thin-layer chromatography is a simple, quick, and inexpensive procedure that gives the chemist a prompt answer as to how many components are in a mixture. This was followed by final confirmation via comparisons with dyes independently synthesized in the textile chemistry lab at NCSU.

Dr. Freeman and his team concluded that the face fibers in the carpet fragment are wool and that the carpet backing contains cotton fibers. The team identified the dyes used in the red and yellow yarns and determined that both dyes were developed in the 1870s, making the earliest possible date of manufacture for the Capitol's carpet sample the third quarter of 19th century. The report concludes that the carpet fragment found in the Capitol's attic is neither a piece of the 1854 or 1866 legislative carpets. However, the fact that it dates from the late 1800s makes it the earliest and most authentic Capitol carpet found to date.

Currently, Raymond Beck and Tiffianna Honsinger are working with another NCSU textiles professor, Alan Donaldson, to extrapolate the missing pieces of the carpet pattern. Once a complete design is determined, the Capitol hopes to reproduce the 19th century carpet pattern for installation in the legislative chambers.



*Dr. Freeman examines both the front and back of the carpet while removing yellow and red yarns to use for dye analysis and thin-layer chromatography. July 2006.*

# Board of Directors Welcome New Members

*T*he Foundation is pleased to welcome five new members to the Board of Directors. Thomas W.A. Alexander, Kristy Lee, Sarah Lofton, Betty Ray McCain, and Amy Needham were introduced at the October 23 board meeting. The new members bring a wide variety of expertise and knowledge to the leadership of the Foundation. Each will serve a two year term.

## *Thomas W.A. Alexander:*



A Raleigh native, Tom Alexander and his wife Mickie have one son, Haywood, who serves as a Raleigh police officer. Alexander was awarded the Morehead Scholarship to attend UNC and served in the U.S. Marines before earning his law degree in 1968 from Wake Forest University. After law school, Alexander served as state Supreme Court Chief Justice R. Hunt Parker's law clerk for one

year and later became an assistant District Attorney in Wake County. For the past 33 years, Alexander has practiced law with Maupin Taylor. Tom Alexander has functioned as President of the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys and served three terms on the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission. He is currently a member of the board of directors and vice president of both the Carolina Charter Corporation and the North Carolina Military Historical Society. In his spare time, Tom enjoys working as a Community Volunteer with Hospice of Wake County.

## *Amy Needham:*



Amy Needham specializes in media relations and brings more than six years of public relations experience managing national campaigns in a variety of industries. As account executive with French West Vaughan, the southeast's largest public relations firm, Amy managed communications strategy for consumer products in the apparel and jewelry industries.

She has worked on highly successful campaigns for Buzz Off Insect Repellent Apparel, the International Gemological Institute, the International Zesty Food Show, the National Rifle Association and National Geographic. She has received recognition for extensive public relations writing, media pitching and garnered results in national television, print and web outlets.

## *Sarah Lofton:*



Sarah recently retired after running the William Thomas House Bed and Breakfast in Raleigh for thirteen years. She plans to spend more time with her grandchildren, who she hopes will grow to love the Capitol as much as she does. Prior to opening and operating the William Thomas House B & B, Sarah served as Executive Assistant to North Carolina's first lady Dottie Martin and ran the Governor's Mansion from 1985 to 1993.

## *Betty Ray McCain:*



Betty Ray McCain is a former secretary of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources. McCain served in the state post from 1993 through January 2001. Among the numerous honors she has had, she is a former member of the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees, a past president of the North Carolina History Museum

Associates, and a member of the board of directors of the National American Medical Association Woman's Auxiliary. She is a member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

## *Kristy Lee:*



Kristy, who currently resides in Richmond, Virginia, specializes in historic preservation of early North Carolina and Virginia buildings. Her work in Orange County has been recognized by Preservation North Carolina with a Gertrude Carraway Award of Merit. Of particular interest is her recent restoration of the early 19th century log "tavern" located on Hillsborough Street in Chapel Hill.



# *New & Returning Foundation Members*

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