

GARNER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Volume 1, Number 3 – December, 2019

Our mission: Preserving the history of Garner and nearby crossroads, educating youth and promoting Garner's story in and outside of the community.



It Has Happened!

On Saturday, December 14, the historic Garner Depot and the Caboose were moved to their new home! The excitement was evident when Wolfe moving company placed the Depot on wheels and it began to roll down East Garner Road, followed by the caboose. Both now sit in a safer location on the lot at the corner of Main and Pearl streets, next to Garner's 1950's fire department, known as the "Pearl Street Building."

The moving process followed many weeks of work on the part of the Town of Garner Public Works department. Public Works staff member Mark Hale coordinated the permitting process, which involved not one but two railroads (NC Railroad and Norfolk & Southern), local power companies, telephone companies, cable companies and other stakeholders.

The Depot was placed on a foundation of temporary piers, and a permanent "curtain screen" foundation will be built. This foundation will mimic the look of a building sitting on brick piers, but will provide a more substantial and stable base for the Depot. The Caboose will be placed on tracks with a concrete pad directly under the caboose chassis.

The Town of Garner has generously agreed to make exterior repairs to the Depot and to paint the exterior of the caboose.



Our history mystery from last issue: Did you know that one of Garner's most prominent early citizens was shot, almost fatally, by one of his best friends? It was actually a hunting accident that took place in the woods near what is now known as Old Garner Road, in November of 1901. The hunting party, made up of men from Garner and Raleigh, was crossing an embankment which caved in; one man stumbled and his gun went off, striking his friend. The very serious wound was described as "about four inches long and an inch in diameter." Both doctors from the Garner area, Dr. Buffaloe and Dr. Banks, were called to attend the wounded man, who did actually survive. Do you know who the wounded man was? He was prominent citizen J. T. Broughton, who survived the gunshot wound.

Help us solve another mystery: We are in search of any documented item of furniture or cabinetry made by Henry Fort(e). We would be thrilled to have photos of any such items, and photocopies of the documentation (such as bills of sale or letters about the items he made.) Mr. Fort was an African American craftsman who owned property in Garner's business district in the late 1800's. Contact us if you can help provide information.

"Welcome Aboard" Capital Campaign Begins

With the relocation of the Historic Depot and caboose, fund-raising work begins in earnest. The Town of Garner has generously committed to making exterior repairs on the Depot and to painting the exterior of the caboose. However, all interior repairs and upfitting of the Depot to create the Garner Depot Museum falls to the Garner Area Historical Society. To that end, we have begun the "Welcome Aboard" Capital Campaign. *Continued*

Amy Griggs was the initial Capital Campaign Chairperson, and did an outstanding job of preparing the campaign materials, including writing a detailed case statement to present to potential donors. Copies of that case statement and campaign materials are now available to any prospective donors, both individuals and corporations. At the end of December, Amy will step away from the Executive Board for a time but other Board members will be working toward the Capital Campaign goals.

Individuals, families, or companies may become capital campaign donors at one of the levels listed below to help establish the Garner Depot History Museum. Permanent recognition will be given to donors, in addition to the benefits of membership in the Society. All contributions are tax deductible. Gifts may also be made in honor or in memory of loved ones.

***Welcome Aboard Club Levels:
Check One***

- Founders' Express: \$15,000 - \$24,999
- Station Master's Club: \$10,000 - \$14,999
- 1902 Society: \$5,000 - \$9,999
- Locomotive Club: \$2,500 - \$4,999
- Engineer's Club: \$1,000 - \$2,499
- Conductor's Club: \$500 - \$999
- Caboose Club: \$200 - \$499
- Depot Agent's Club: \$100 - \$199
- All Aboard Club: \$50 - \$99

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Business Name, If Applicable:

Checks should be made payable to ***Garner Area Historical Society***. Mailing Address: Post Office Box 156, Garner, NC 27529.

Amount enclosed: _____

Reminder to all members:

The Garner Area Historical Society will hold its annual meeting of members on **Sunday, January 26, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.**

The meeting will be held in the Garner Fire Department Training Building on Main Street. (This is the white frame building just behind Fire Station One at the corner of Highway 50 & Main Street.) Refreshments will be served.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Also, don't forget to renew your membership for 2020 if you haven't already done so.

We're Spreading the Word

So far, members of our Executive Board have spoken to both the Morning and Mid-Day Rotary Clubs, the Civitan Club, the Optimist Club, and the Garner Lions Club. We would love to speak to your organization, including church or civic groups. To arrange a speaking date, contact us at: garnerareahistoricalsociety@gmail.com.



The Garner Area Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We are members of the Garner Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of N.C. Historical Societies, and the N.C. Preservation Consortium. Follow us on the Web: Garner-area-historical-society.org and on Facebook @ Garner History.