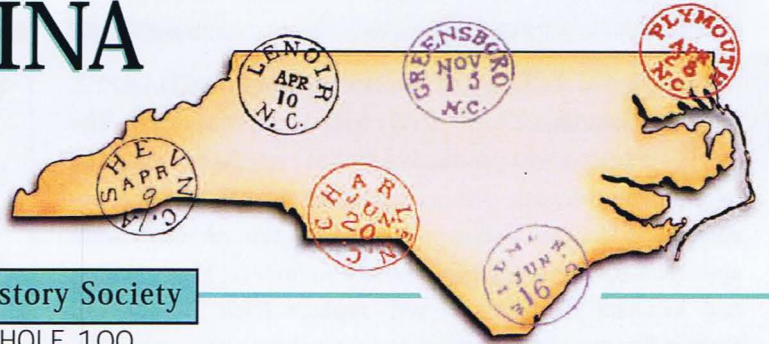


NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN



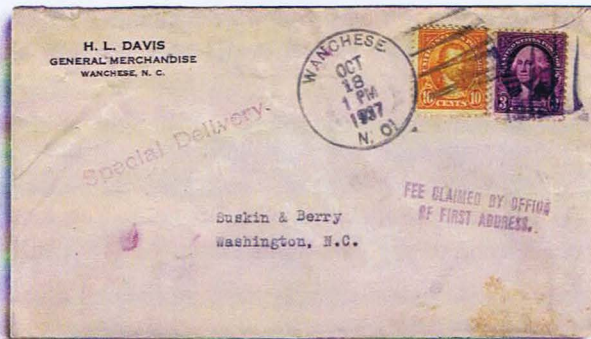
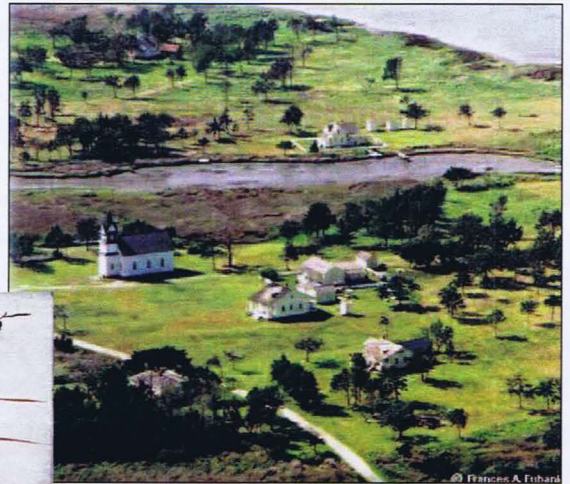
The Journal of North Carolina Postal History Society

VOLUME 26, NO.4

FALL 2007

WHOLE 100

PORTSMOUTH ISLAND, NC

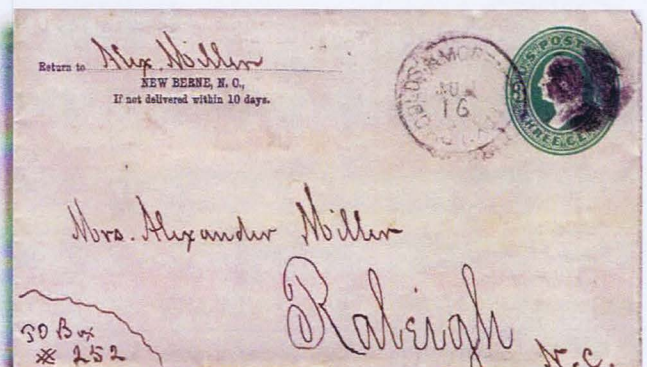


WANCHESE

Roanoke Island, Dare County

GOLDSBORO & MOREHEAD CITY

Agent Marking



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at CHARPEX on Saturday, 28 July 2007, with a quorum present. The meeting was productive and the results are reported later in this journal. The current slate of officers was re-elected for another two-year term. Two new directors were approved by the assembled society members, Harry Albert and Michael Kelly. They will replace Rich Weiner and Bryson Bateman, who completed their three-year terms. The Board was advised that the society's journal, the *North Carolina Postal Historian*, would be entered for the first time in a national literature competition to be held at Chicago in the fall.

One of the most encouraging reports at the Board meeting showed that the membership continues to grow very slightly with 94 members now paying dues. During times when most societies are losing members, we continue to show small growth. Undoubtedly, this is in large measure due to the wonderful work that Tony Crumbley, as the editor of our journal, and Terry Chappell, as the one who creates the outstanding layout of the journal pages, are doing for the society.

After the meeting, Bill Di Paolo provided a fascinating and informative presentation on deceitful, fraudulent, ignorant, and creative uses that either break or bend the postal rules. He displayed a number of items that passed through the mail in modern times that were against post office rules or regulations, helping us to better understand the various practices used by some members of the public to deceive or cheat the post office department. The attendance at his talk was quite good and everyone enjoyed it.

The Outer Banks History Center in Manteo has been provided for their library a set of our 4-volume publication, *Post Offices and Postmaster of North Carolina*, as well as a complete run of our journal. This regional archive and research library,

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administered by the North Carolina State Archives, is an important source of information preserving the heritage of the outer banks region. I heartedly recommend a visit to this facility in the Roanoke Island Festival Park complex at Manteo the next time you visit the outer banks region.

The status box of the *North Carolina Postmark Catalog* update on the last page shows that 20 counties have now been completed. The files for these counties are expected to be posted on the National Postal Museum web site by the time you read this column. If you have any new markings or new information about markings already in the catalog, please contact me.

A dues notice is included with this issue. Yes, that time has come again to pay your annual dues. At \$15 it still remains a great bargain. Our society continues to enjoy good financial

(continued on back page)



North Carolina Postal Historian

The North Carolina Postal Historian is the official journal of the North Carolina Postal History Society. It is published quarterly in January, April, July and October.

Membership in the Society is \$15 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the Treasurer. Submissions for the Postal Historian or inquiries may be addressed to the editors.

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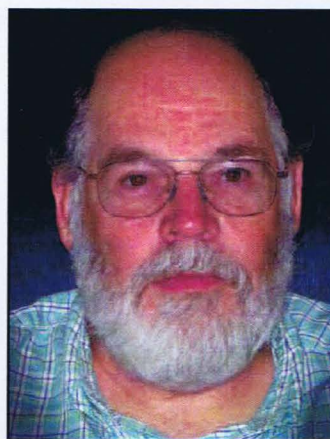
Harry Albert
Michael Kelly

Who's Who In The NCPHS

compiled by Marshall Acee

Jerry Roughton describes himself as a collector whose interest encompasses much to do with North Carolina history. His interest in collecting began early in his teens growing up in Elizabeth City. By the early Sixties his collecting had relegated itself to United States coinage and Civil War tokens. Today, a retired educator, he lives in Kenansville with his wife and a happy group of cats.

Whether collecting postal covers, early photographs, trade tokens or strawberry crates from Duplin County, it is all part of the enjoyment, he says, of collecting and studying North Carolina history. Researching and writing about many of the objects he collects adds further interest to his hobbies. Over the years Jerry has written numerous articles for a variety of collector's publications ranging from tokens to North Carolina medicines, such as his article "Medical Remedies for Man's Aliments," for *NCPH* (Winter 2001-2002). In 1982, while living in Greensboro, he wrote and published his first monograph on the subject of the cardboard *checks* (so-called "tickets") used by local dewberry growers of Moore County, North Carolina as a means to account for the picking of the berry fruit for the market. This venture into self-publication lead to him to establish "Black Crow Press," which became a registered publishing company. He has continued to add other titles to his "Carolina Series" over the years, all related to North Carolina subjects. One of his projects which he is most pleased with is entitled, *North Carolina County Scrip*



1861-1862 of Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and The Corporation of Elizabeth City, published in 1986. Drawn to his special interest in north-eastern North Carolina, he says, he learned a great deal about the Civil War in that region in preparation for the monograph. He researched and collected information for the subject from a variety of sources for nearly fif-

teen years. His last title, *Roughton's Directory & Reference of North Carolina Medicines, Preparations and Remedies For Humans & Animals and Their Manufacturers*, was published in limited edition in 2001. In that same year he also began co-editing and publishing the *North Carolina Numismatic Scrapbook*, a quarterly journal, with his friend and fellow collector-researcher Paul Horner.

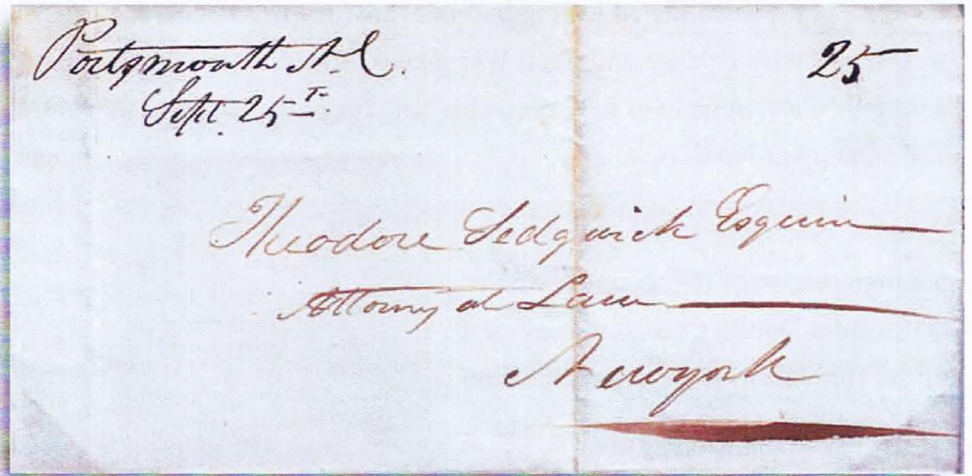
The "Scrapbook" is in its fifth year of publication.

Jerry began teaching visual arts in Greensboro in the mid-70s, followed by a period in which he was art director for a graphics firm in High Point. He and his wife moved to the eastern part of the state in the mid-80s when his wife, Becke, became a Visiting Artist with the North Carolina Arts Council. Eventually he and Becke settled in Kenansville, where she is a professor at James Sprunt Community College. Jerry, a man of many pursuits and talents finds time to take a break from collecting and researching to enjoy carving wooden sculptures. When carving in wood, he says, he does not have to deal with someone else's history, but enjoy creating in the present. ■

The internet has added much to the hobby – not only does it allow one to do research never before available, it has become a source for philatelic material to feed the collector.

A recent expansion of my internet searches has been for history books about North Carolina places. This article is the outcome of one such find.

I recently purchased a wonderful history of Portsmouth Island, “*Portsmouth Island Short Stories and History*” by Ben B. Salter. The book is only 72 pages but it was published in 1972 and written by Mr. Salter who had been born on the island in 1899. Reading this book one can just hear Ben telling the stories of the island. The chapter titles cover the gamut – “My Home on the Island,” “The Colored Family that Lived on the Island,” “Sick Man on the Boat,” “Ship Wrecks off the Beach,” and even one entitled “History of the Post Office.”



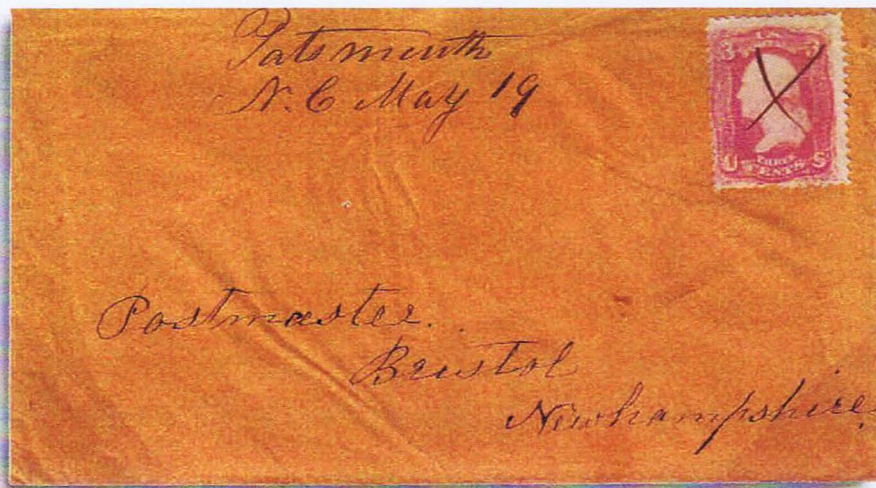
▲ **Figure 1**

Portsmouth, NC, September 25, 1843
Letter concerns problems in taking depositions of seamen involved in a legal case. The Island's population was 400 in 1840.



◀ **Figure 2**

1851 issue posted April ca. 1852
to Massachusetts.

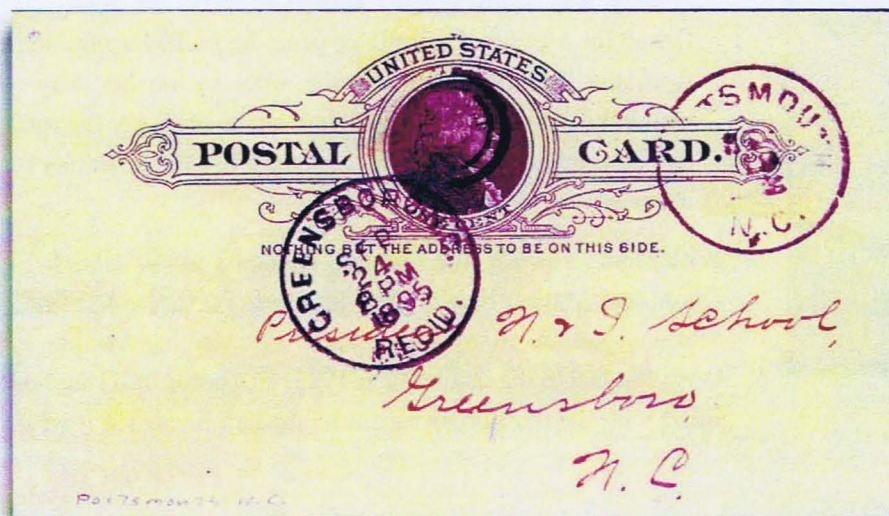


◀ **Figure 3**

Portsmouth, NC, May 19, ca. 1862 to
Bristol, New Hampshire. Most likely an
occupation letter as New Hampshire troops
were stationed in Portsmouth at this time.

Portsmouth was first settled by whites in 1700. Before then it had been called “Crotan,” home of the Indians. The island was named after the English city of Portsmouth and is located at the tip of the Core Banks in Carteret County. The Town of Portsmouth Island was established in 1753 by an act of the North Carolina General Assembly. John Kersey was the first owner. He laid out half acre lots and John Tolson bought the first lot in 1756 for 20 shillings.

By 1770 the village had become one of the largest settlements on the Outer Banks. For nearly a century the town was a major port in North Carolina. The Ocracoke Inlet along with Teachs Hole (of the famed Blackbeard), which was used to park deep water ships, was the key factor to the development of the town. In 1842, more than 1,400 vessels and two thirds of the state’s exports passed through Ocracoke Inlet. In 1860 Portsmouth Village had 685 residents. Portsmouth had developed as a “lightening” village – a place where large navigation vessels would stop, unload their cargo into lighter, shallow draft boats and continue on their way to inland ports.



◀ **Figure 4**

Portsmouth, NC, September 19, 1895.
A postal card from a resident asking
for a school catalogue from the normal
and industrial school in Greensboro.

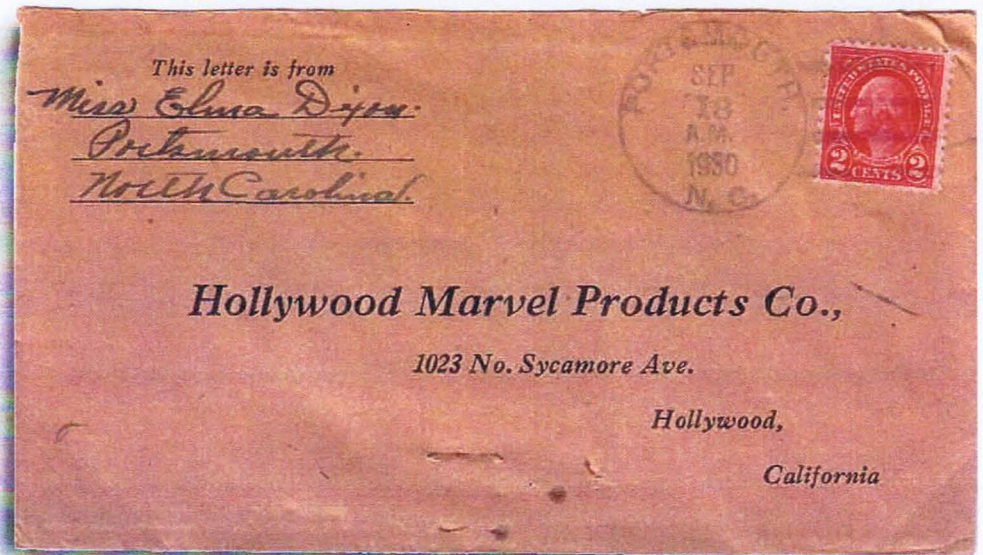
After 1860 Portsmouth Village underwent changes. Union troops occupied the Outer Banks and most residents moved inland to safety. After the war, many of the residents chose not to return. The lack of their return was primarily economic.

In 1846 a hurricane opened up a deeper inlet at Hatteras and the Ocracoke Inlet began to shallow. Ships began to dock at Hatteras instead and more and more goods began to travel by railroad on the mainland. In 1899 the hurricane San Ciraco hit Portsmouth Island. The storm surge put the island under five feet of water. The transfer wharves which ran nearly a mile in the shallows along the west side of the island were destroyed. By then the smaller port towns that the lightning docks serviced (Elizabeth City, Edenton, Washington and Bath) were getting more and more of their freight from railroads and the economics of the time did not justify the cost of rebuilding. The days of Portsmouth as a center of commerce were over.

For the next 50 years, Portsmouth would be a fishing village and a life saving station. By 1956 however, the population had declined to 17 residents. In 1971 the last male living on the island died. Henry happened to be the colored man Ben Salter writes about:



▲ **Figure 6**
Old school house



▲ **Figure 5**

Portsmouth, NC, September 18, 1930. An envelope from Elma Dixon, one of Portsmouth's last residents, to Hollywood Marvel Products Co. in California. The company handled Little Orphan Annie decoder rings. By 1930 only about 20 families lived on the island.

“Henry was living when I started to write the book. He fished for a living, but in later years he picked up the mail from the “mail boat” when she went by on her way to Ocracoke. He would pole out in a small skiff, get the mail, any passengers and give the captain a list for groceries for the people on the island.”

With Henry's death, the last two residents of the Island, Elma Dixon and Marian Babb, reluctantly left Portsmouth. Elma and Marian returned many times until their deaths, Marian Babb being the last to die at age 71 in 1993. Her home still stand today filled with the mail order furniture she had furnished it with.

The first post office to open in Portsmouth was in 1840. John Rumley was appointed postmaster. Over the years, 27 postmasters served the village. The last being Dorthy M. Salter who was appointed March 23, 1956. She served until April 11, 1959 when the mail was discontinued and sent to Ocracoke.

Dorthy Salter's mother had been the postmaster from 1926 until 1956. Annie Salter was the aunt of Ben Salter, author of the Portsmouth book. Ben writes:

“After the post office was closed, the mail was sent over by boat from Ocracoke three times a week. Soon the mail ceased to be delivered regularly. A man that comes to this island to see about the well being of the few people there still brings their mail as a favor for them.”

Of the post office building, Ben writes:

“This building still stands with the flag pole still in the yard. It is a small building, weather beaten by many storms that have beat against it. Wish someone would paint it and fly the flag once more.”



▲ **Figure 7**
Post office building
as it looked in 1971.

▼ **Figure 8**
Inside post office building
as it is restored today.



◀ **Figure 9**
Dixon-Slater house, home of the
Island's last postmaster family.



Note:
Postal illustrations are from the Scott Troutman collection and photos were taken by Frances A. Eubanks for the Friends of Portsmouth Island.

Perhaps Ben's little book stirred some interest in the island, for in 1976 with the establishment of the Cape Lookout National Seashore, a new life came to Portsmouth Village – a 250 acre historic district was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings that remained have been restored, including the small post office that housed the general store as well in later years. By 1956 however, a postage stamp was the town's only purchasable commodity. ■

Wanchese, Roanoke Island, Dare County

by Scott Troutman

Of all the towns on the accessible Outer Banks, Wanchese probably gets the fewest visitors. Located on the southern tip of Roanoke Island, it has no beaches, no seafood restaurants of note, no tourist attractions, and no hotels. It also has the lowest priced housing on the Outer Banks. The little fishing village has had a post office since June 14, 1886 but its history goes way back.

Wanchese was inhabited when some of the first white explorers arrived in 1584 and found the towns namesake, Chief Wanchese of the Algonquin tribe, making his summer camp there. The Amandas and Barlowe expedition of 1584, financed by Sir Walter Raleigh, landed there that summer and found the Indians busy fishing. The southern tip of the island was the camp of Wanchese and his Algonquins of the Roanoke branch of the tribe. The northern end of the island was inhabited by Chief Manteo and his Croatans. Both tribes used the island as a summer fishery and to gather the wild grapes that covered much of the island. After helping reprovision the ships for the return voyage with fish, deer and other provisions, both Wanchese and Manteo went with the British back to England. They stayed with Sir Walter Raleigh, visited with Queen Elizabeth and were a great curiosity among the rich and famous of the time. Both returned with the Greenville expedition the next year.

Chief Wanchese was a peaceful native and taught the English the Algonquin language and the Indian ways of warfare during his time in England. At a later date, treacheries against his people by the British and the killing of Wingina, the overall king of the thirty tribes of the Algonquin confederacy, turned him against the colonists and he lived out his days a hunted enemy on the mainland.

The area north of Wanchese on Roanoke Island is a quagmire of swamps, as the Northern Forces found out during the Civil War. To take the island, the Union forces landed at Wanchese and then slogged there way up the island through snake infested swamps thick with green briar and nearly impenetrable undergrowth. This tactic surprised

the entrenched Confederate forces. Knowing the island, they thought no one would be that crazy.

Wanchese is and always was a fishing village blessed with a good harbor. When Oregon Inlet blew open in the great hurricane of 1899, it provided their fisherman with access to both warm and cold water fin fish in the Atlantic. They always had the whole of the Pamlico sound in which to fish and collect shrimp and shellfish. Until the 1880's blue point crabs, a main stay of Wanchese's fisheries, were considered "trash" and thrown overboard if caught and not harvested commercially.

Today Wanchese, together with its sister city Stumpy Point across the sound on the mainland, are listed as the 29th largest seafood processing city in the entire United States. 15% of its people work directly in the fishing industry, another 10% are carpenters, building the never ending condos and houses going up on the Outer Banks or working in the booming ship building industry. But we talking about a small town that even today in a boom period that has only about 1400 residents.

The women of Wanchese have always worked in the support industries. In David Strick's book, *An Outer Banks Reader*, he interviews some of the female crab pickers from Wanchese in 1992. Crab pickers worked piece rate for \$1.25 to \$1.50 a pound and workers were expected to pick at least 20 pounds of crab a day. Some crab houses paid a wage when the girls were learning. Really fast crab pickers could do 75 pounds of meat a day (and I mean to tell you, you would have to be really fast). Wanchese was processing 12,000 pounds of crab a day at two crab houses then. The need for crab pickers continues to be so great that courses are taught in some of the local colleges to teach people how to pick crab.

In 1981 the Wanchese Seafood Industrial Park opened, originally designed to promote the seafood industry. However, problems with keeping a channel open at Oregon Inlet nearly doomed the project as the deep water fishing fleet was forced to move elsewhere. By refocusing

the parks mission to being a marine oriented industrial park in 1994, the park began to attract boat building and marine maintenance jobs. Now seven major boat builders are located at Wanchese: Bayliss, Sculley, Johnson, Carolina Custom Yachts, B&D Boatworks and Crosswiat Brothers Yachts. Bayliss in particular is a high end boat builder. Now Bluewater Yacht Sales has opened, specializing in selling yachts in the 42 to 85 foot range. Add to this lineup the premier marine Caterpillar dealership in the country with full repair facilities and the Outer Banks Marine Maintenance company and you can see why Wanchese

has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the state.

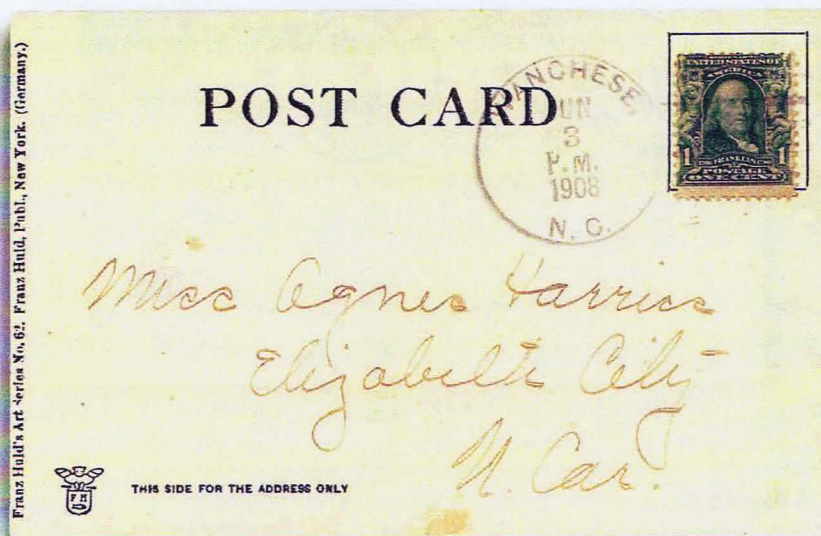
Before the bridges were built to Roanoke island in the 1950's, mail was serviced by mailboats. Indeed, small mailboats operating out of Wanchese serviced most of the towns on Pea and Hatteras Islands as far south as Hatteras until Route 12 was constructed down the Outer Banks. Mail came to Skyco on Roanoke Island on larger boats out of Norfolk or Edenton and was carried down the island to Wanchese. ■

The following is a collection of postmarks from the town.



◀ **Figure 1**

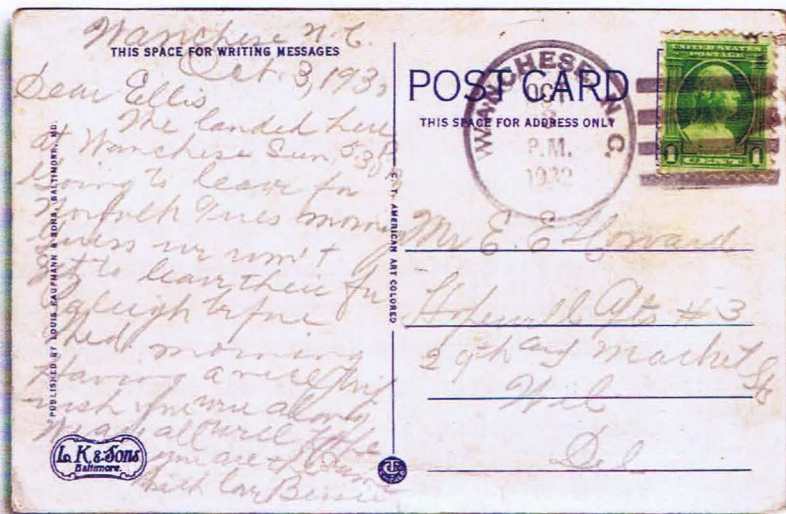
Four bar killer dated May 4, 1908 on an embossed post card to a lady at Nags Head. "Dear Ethel I will not forget ya this time. I have not got time to write now so good by from Eddie Peterson".
(Courtesy Tony Crumbley)



◀ **Figure 2**

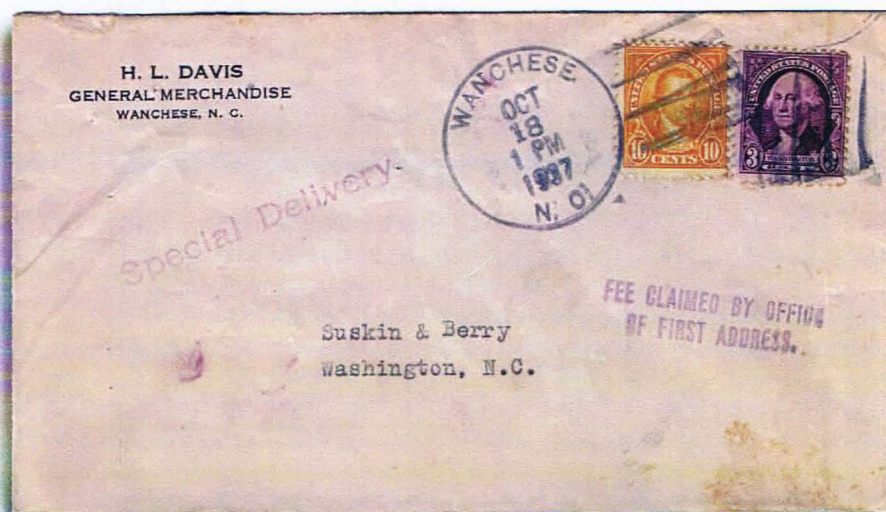
Four bar killer dated June 3, 1908 to a lady at Elizabeth City. Note on these first two postcards the only address was the persons name and town.
(Courtesy Tony Crumbley)

(Examples continued on next page)



◀ **Figure 3**

Post card with different four bar killer cancelled Oct. 3, 1932.
(Courtesy Tony Crumbley)

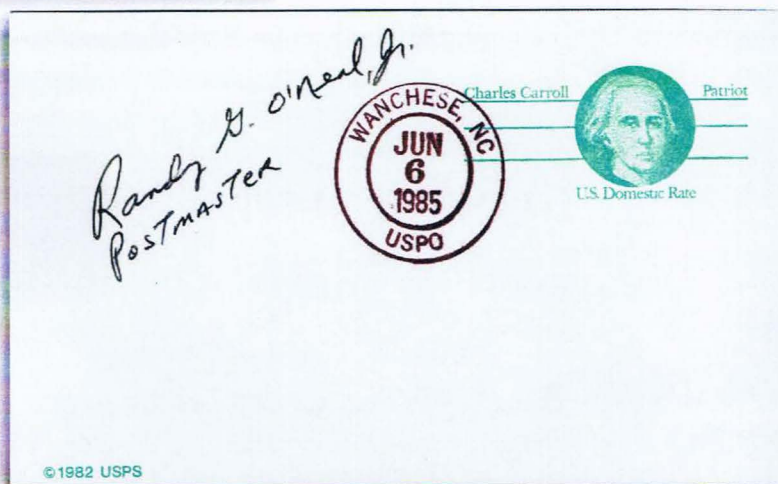


◀ **Figure 4**

Special delivery cover from H.L. Davis's general store at Wanchese dated Oct. 18, 1937 with unusual separate killer. I think, but cannot verify, that the post office was in this general store.
(Courtesy Tony Crumbley)

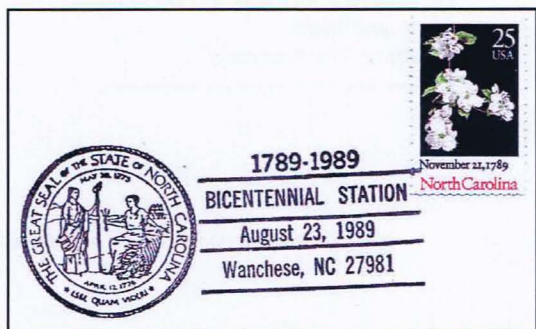
Figure 5 ▶

Courtesy cancel on postal card with double ring cancel from June 6, 1985. Signed by postmaster Randy G. O'Neal Jr.
(Courtesy Tony Crumbley)



◀ **Figure 6**

1986 North Carolina fancy cancel from Wanchese Aug. 23, 1989.
(Courtesy Tony Crumbley)



Galax for Sale in Low Gap, NC

by Scott Troutman

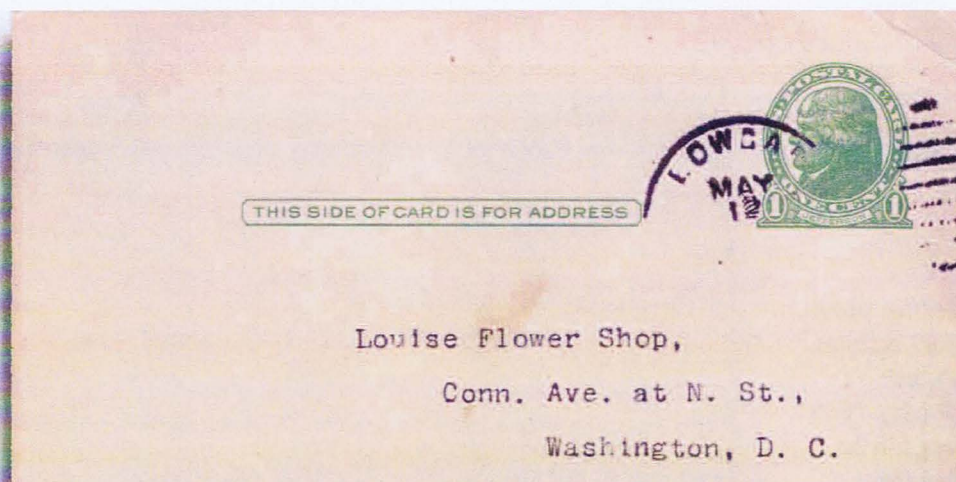
In some post cards my uncle cleaned out of an old house in West Virginia, was an old postal card (Scott No. UX27) with only a half strike from Low Gap, North Carolina. Low Gap is in Surrey County.

The card was sent May 13, 1925 by the W.M. Woodruff's Son & Co. of Lowgap advertising supplies of "Natural Bronze Galax" and "Medium Green Galax". I never knew that galax, a plant that grows wild throughout the mountains of North Carolina and southern Virginia had commercial value.

Hikers in the mountains know galax well, but people from the east may never have encountered it. It is a groundcover that grows on the forest floor and has waxy leaves about the size of the palm of your hand. On hot summer days it gives off a pungent odor. In summer the tops of the leaves are green, while the underside is heavily veined and red. In winter the plant "bronzes" in the cold and the tops turn bronze-red as well.

The card was sent to a flower shop in Washington, D.C. so apparently they shipped it far and wide. It is still used

in floral displays and buyers for it may still be around the Boone, N.C. area. Galax (*galax urceolata*) is listed on some web sites as once having been used medicinally for treating cuts and wounds and was used in "infusions" for treating kidney disease. ■



JUST ONE MINUTE---

We still have enough **Natural Bronze Galax**, medium (XX) size only, to meet your

Memorial Day Requirements

All good stock, \$7.50 per case. Few cases **Medium Green Galax**, while they last at \$7.50 per case.

Some **Leucothoe**, medium green only, at \$3.50 per 1,000.

Prepared Bronze Galax always in season—always available.

W. M. WOODRUFF'S SON & CO.
Lowgap, N. C.

May 13, 1925.

In *North Carolina Postal Historian* Vol. 15, No.1 Winter 1996 Whole 56, Tony Crumbley presented a survey of the 1869 Issue used on cover from North Carolina. At that Issue 65 covers were listed in the table. Included were all issues from the 1 cent to the 90 cent, *Scott Catalog* numbers 112–122. In the past ten years a few more covers from the 1869 issue used from North Carolina have come to light, with some updates on dates of use also.

Just to repeat some of the facts on the 1869 issue I will list them here. The stamps were issued by the National Bank

Note Company with a four year contact on that design in 1869. The earliest date of issue is listed as 26 March 1869. They were replaced by the National Bank Note Companies 12 Apr. 1870 issue, giving the issue from 1869 54 weeks of usage. Thus the scarcity of the stamp on cover from North Carolina. All together a total of 473,650,670 stamps of all values were printed, 386,475,900 printed for the 3c Scott # 114 alone.

I will report each issue as Tony Crumbley did in his previous article of NCPH Whole # 56.

■ 1 cent Franklin Sc# 112

No new records.

■ 2 cent Pony Express Sc# 113

Two covers are added to the 3 in the first survey.

- Salisbury 7 Jun. (1869) (Figure 1)
- Harrington

■ 3 cent Locomotive Sc# 114

Eight new towns and nine new dates for previous listed towns, making a total of 69 different covers and 42 different towns, with one Railroad cover. An earlier date of 9 May 1869 from Asheboro. These are the covers for the new towns, and listing for new dates from town listed before in Vol. 15, No. 1.

- Asheboro 9 May 1869 (Figure 2)
- Bolton 31 Mar 1870
- Boone 17 June 1873 (late use)
- Eagle Mills 22 Aug (1869) (Figure 3)
- Forrestville 21 Aug (1869)
- Highpoint 1 Dec (1869)
- Jonesboro 20 Sept (1869)
- Salisbury 25 Apr (1869)

Additional dates for towns already listed for the 3c

- Fayetteville 14 Feb (1870)
- Greensboro 26 Feb (1870)
- Oxford 23 Oct (1869)
- Plymouth 26 Oct (1869)
- Raleigh 25 Jan (1870)
- Raleigh 14 Feb (1870)
- Raleigh 26 Mar (1870)
- Statesville 29 Nov (1869)
- Wilmington 25 Mar (1870)



Figure 1 ▲
Salisbury 7 Jun. (1869)

▼ Figure 2
Asheboro 9 May 1869

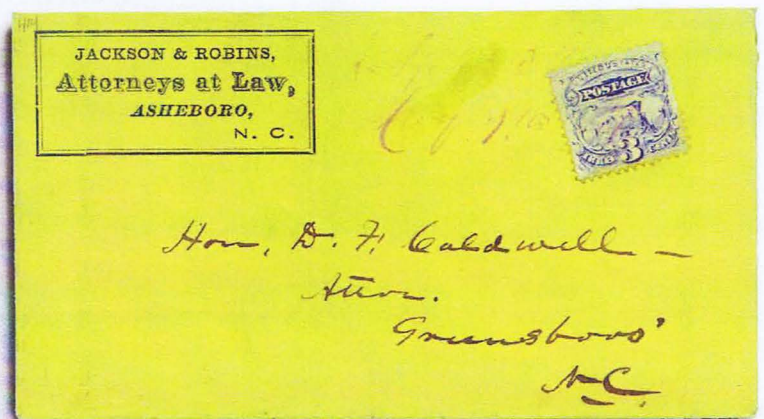


Figure 3 ▶
Eagle Mills 22 Aug (1869)



- **6 cent** Washington sc# 115
None reported.
- **10 cent** Eagle and Shield Sc# 116
No new covers.
- **12 cent** Ship Adriatic Sc# 117
No new covers.

■ **15 cent** Type I Columbus Discovering America Sc# 118
There was a listing recently on *eBay* of a 15 cent Sc.# 118 with a 3 cent Sc# 114. The cancel was very poor and may have been “New Berne”. It was mailed to Morganton NC. The cancel did not tie the 15 cent well and there are no Registry markings on the cover. This author suspects that this is a fake cover and was not included in the total number of covers in this article.
– New Berne 23 Apr (1869) ?

- **15 cent** Type II Columbus Discovering America Sc# 119
No new covers.
- **24 cent** Signing of Declaration of Independence Sc# 120
No new covers.

■ **30 cent** Eagle and Flags Sc# 121
No new covers.

■ **90 cent** Lincoln Sc# 122
No new cover.

An update on the one surviving 90 cent cover:

The cover turned up in Chicago, Jan. 4, 2006 after 39 years of being lost. It was recovered by the FBI since it was transported across state lines stolen from J. David Baker in Indianapolis IN, in 1967. (*Linn’s Stamp News* Feb. 26, 2007 for full story. In a later issue of *Linn’s Stamp*

Scott	Rate	Earliest Date	Quantity Issued	Covers Known	Estimated Maximum	Known N.C. Covers
112	1 cent	1 Apr 1869	12,020,550	---	2,500	2
113	2 cent	20 Mar 1869	72,109,050	750	25,000	5
114	3 cent	27 Mar 1869	335,534,850	---	175,000	69
115	6 cent	26 Apr 1869	4,293,100	448	1,350	0
116	10 cent	1 Apr 1869	2,713,800	1,100	1,500	1
117	12 cent	1 Apr 1869	3,012,700	458	900	0
118	15 cent I	2 Apr 1869	110,000	150	175	2
119	15 cent II	5 Apr 1869	1,376,700	464	550	4
120	24 cent	7 Apr 1869	248,925	76	76	1
121	30 cent	22 May 1869	304,650	58	58	0
122	90 cent	9 Sep 1869	55,500	1	1	0
Totals			473,650,670		247,681	84

News Apr. 2, 2007, a interview with Ezra Cole stamp dealer from Nyack, N.Y. in the 1984 issue of *Collectors Club Philatelist* tells a report of the 90 cent Lincoln. Stamp dealer J. Murry Bartels found the cover in a box and that the 90c was not on the cover when found, but that Bartels “found the 90 cent stamp”. The 10c and 12c stamps were also added. ■

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The United States Postage Stamps of the 19th Century, Lester G. Brookman, 1966
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Linn’s Stamp News Vol. 80 No 4087 Feb. 26, 2007
Linn’s Stamp News Vol. 80 No 4092 April 2, 2007
North Carolina Postal Historian Vol. 15, No. 1 Winter 1996 Whole 56
Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers, James E. Kloetzel Editor, 2007

Goldsboro & Morehead City Agent Marking

by Scott Troutman

Shown is a rather unremarkable looking cover with a hard to read handstamp cancel. I noted it was out of New Berne, with an Agent marking and took a chance.

On getting it home and examining it the marking is a double strike of the Goldsboro and Morehead City agent marking (MPOS 323-E-1) that was used by the Midland North Carolina Railroad. The enclosed letter is datelined June 15th, 1881, some five years before the earliest reported marking of this type in the Mobile Post Office Society catalogs. This is a fairly scarce marking from

the railroad that took over the former Atlantic Carolina Railroad after the Civil War.

On the back of the cover is a nice advertising handstamp from Alexander Miller's "Choice Family Groceries" in New Berne.

Apparently there was some kind of disease problem in New Berne at the time (malaria?) and Alexander's wife Bettie had gone to Raleigh at the doctor's urging with their son Clarence to recover and "take the airs". The following is the enclosed letter.

New Berne, NC

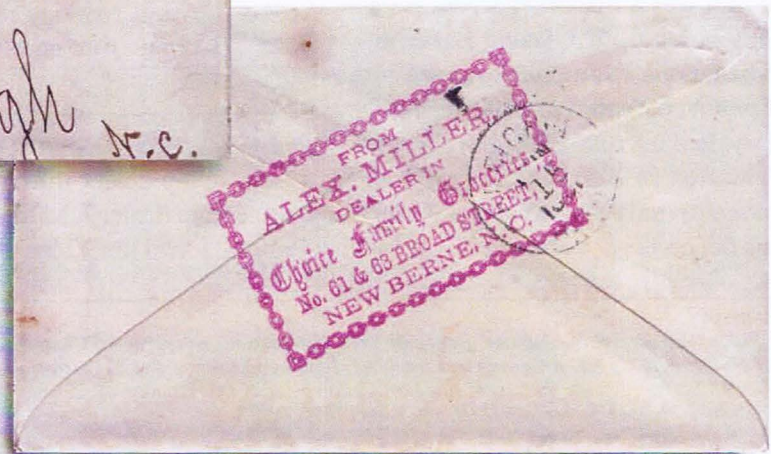
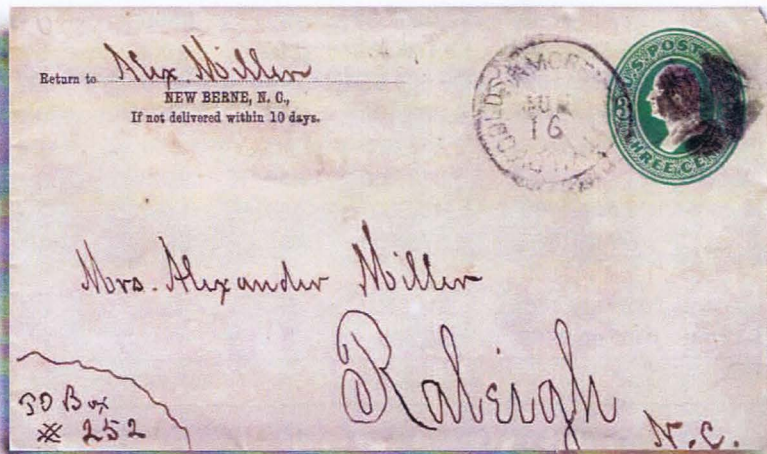
June 15th 1881

Dear Bettie

Your kind letter of the 14th inst. received last night, its presence afforded me real pleasure and more specially to learn that you made the trip with no more inconvenience. I hope all may pass off well and you may commence a steady and general improvement in health from the first, in change of climate.

Yes I certainly miss you and Clarence so much, but if it will only result in improvement of your health I can cheerfully endure the separation. The morning you left I paid Liz(ie?) for her wages. She went home sick. Said she was going to see a doctor. I have not seen her since but she sent me word yesterday that she would probably come down this morning.

William Brown has not been down yet. He had the doctor to see him twice, but I heard yesterday evening that he had gotten a Buggy and gone to Swift Creek Village on his own. How independent he is. We have kept quite busy, we sold



Monday & Tuesday \$175 dollars or about 80.00 per day cash. Nettie Paine passes here very often, with her carriage & dolls. She says she wished Clarence was here. She seems to miss him very much.

We have had no rain here yet. Yesterday was the hottest day of the season, but last night we had a good breeze & pleasant. I hope we will have rain soon we need it much.

I am much pleased with my arrangement at the Control House. I have read my chapter so far every night at 10 o'clock. Last night the 1st, tonight will read the 2nd chapter of John. This is certainly a source of much pleasure to me especially while we are separated from each other. Kiss dear Clarence for me. Tender my love to all. Does Mother & Father think Clarence has grown much? Let me hear from you as often as you can. With much love and many kisses for you & Clarence.

I remain your devoted husband

Alexander Miller

Minutes of the North Carolina Postal History Society Board of Directors Meeting,

July 28, 2007, at CHARPEX 2007

Attending – Harvey Tilles, Marshall Acee, Dick Winter, Tom Richardson, Michael Kelly, John Allan, Harry Albert, Richard Weiner, Bill DiPaolo

After the call to order, President Winter stated that a quorum was present to conduct the business of the board. He asked that the minutes of the last meeting, as reported in the NCPHS Postal Historian (Winter), Whole No. 96, be approved. The minutes were accepted as written.

The current officers were re-elected to serve another two-year term ending in 2009. They are President: Richard Winter; Vice-President: Harvey Tilles; Secretary-Treasurer: William DiPaolo

The Secretary-Treasurer reported that membership currently stands at 94, up slightly over the last five years. The financial position of the Society is sound. There is currently \$1,713 in the checking account and a CD of \$5,000. The Board agreed to have the CD renewed in the fall when it matures.

President Winter announced that our journal, the North Carolina Postal Historian, would be entered in the literature competition of Chicagopex in November. He congratulated Terry Chappell on the look of the journal and thanked him and Tony Crumbley for their efforts.

Tom Richardson reported on the status of NCPHS auctions, with about \$183 income to the Society in the last five auctions. Auctions with good material do well and those with ordinary material don't. Better material is needed for future auctions to better serve the needs of the members.

An open discussion ensued concerning additional services that might be provided to members and new ways to attract members. Many ideas were presented; however, the manpower to implement many of these programs does not seem to be available. Bill DiPaolo will produce a Secretary's Newsletter to help improve member communication.

Two new directors were elected by the members present. They are Harry Albert and Michael Kelly to serve three year terms. The two directors ending their terms were Bryson Bateman and Rich Weiner, who were thanked for their service.

The next meeting will be at Charpex 2008, a larger show hosting the Confederate Stamp Alliance at a new location.

Submitted by

—Dick Winter, President, for the Secretary-Treasurer

CALLING ALL MEMBER CYBER-PHILES

The *POSTAL HISTORIAN* has compiled a
MEMBERSHIP E-MAIL DIRECTORY

Please send your email address to
tcrumbley2@bellsouth.net

2007 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

N.C. Archives	J. Ron Edwards	Robert Outlaw
J. Marshall Acee	Charles Hall	Tom Richardson
Harry Albert	John Hardy, Jr.	Jay & Bonnie Smith
W. Bryson Bateman	Rodger Hinshaw	Larry Thomas
Ralph Baumgardner	Phil Hodges	Alan Vestal
Terry Chappell	Steve Jackson	Sam Whitehead
Tony Crumbley	Lewis Leigh	Richard Wiener
Frank Dale	Lawrence Lohr	Richard Winter
	Dennis Osborne	

NEW MEMBERS

Steven Roth	Washington, DC
Susan Sides	Salisbury, NC
Roger Curran	Lewisburg, PA
Andrea Edmonson	Concord, NC
Larry Baum	Sumpter, SC
Barry Hambright	Gastonia, NC
Richard Warren	Coral Springs, FL
Ed Stafford	La Junta, CO

(President's Letter continued from front page)

health thanks to the generosity of our members. Donations above the regular membership amount are deductible and will be very helpful to our small society.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for improving the society. Please feel free to call me at home (336-545-0175), send me an email message, or write to me. Both my email address and my mailing address appear in this journal.

—Dick Winter

North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update

The following counties have been completed or updated and are available at

http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/northcarolina_postmarkcatalog.html:

Alamance through Cherokee

If you'd like to contribute information or articles to the winter *POSTAL HISTORIAN* please submit by the following deadline:

December 1

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Bold type indicates a new or changed address