

President's Message

The Board of the B. W. Wells Association hopes the year 2008 brings happiness and satisfaction to all its members. We are looking forward to our next Heritage Day scheduled for **March 29, 2008**. Heritage Day 2007 brought us over 500 visitors and many new members. We will try to surpass these numbers in 2008.

We have been working. You will see in other articles that the porch on the Rock Cliff Farmhouse has been repaired by Ed Osborne. Association members and Brian Bockhahn are getting the word out about B. W. Wells and the Association through presentations, hikes, tours and workshops.

Earl Creutzburg is working hard to have new display cases installed strategically though out the area by Heritage Day. Jimmy Ray and Pamela Andrejev are working together to build our membership. Hugh Nourse and Johnny Randall are collaborating on a management plan to bring back to Rock Cliff Farm many wild flowers drowned out by the flooding of Falls Lake. Johnny is arranging for many plants to be donated from the NC Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill for this purpose. Brian Bockhahn and Jean McCamy are making progress in producing our book about Rock Cliff Farm. We hope it will be ready for sale at our next Annual Meeting in September 2008.

Our work is building positive momentum for the Association. We hope its founding fathers would be pleased with what we have done to revitalize it.

John Pelosi, President,
B. W. Wells Association

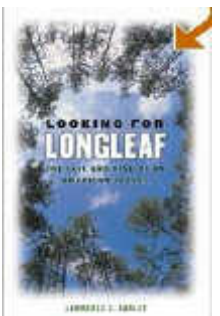


New Board Members

Fran Shapiro and Larry Earley have joined the Board of Directors of the Association. Fran is serving out the remainder of a term previously held by another member. Larry was elected to a three year term at our annual meeting in September.

Fran is an artist and retired art teacher. She has served on a number of boards in Wake Forest and is very active in community organizations including the Wake Forest Garden Club.

Larry served for 20 years as associate editor and editor of Wildlife in North Carolina published by the NC Wildlife Commission. "Looking for Longleaf, The Fall and Rise of an American Forest" is among his many publications about ecology and the environment.



The board looks forward to working with Fran and Larry and to their contributions to our efforts.

John Pelosi, President, B. W. Wells Association

Heritage Day Committee Formed

A Heritage Day Committee has been formed and headed up by Liz Ford, who will be looking for volunteers from the membership to take on the various tasks: Setting up a table for new and renewing members, setting up displays, games, helping with children's games, leading tours and hikes, parking, directing traffic. Before the day itself we will need help clearing trails and making sure the farm looks good. Email Liz at eandrnford@embarqmail.com

Mark your calendar 5th annual B.W. Wells Heritage Day Saturday March 29, 2008.
www.bwwells.org/hday

Ed Osborne Rebuilds Porch

Last year it was the rebuilding of the Historic Out-house remodeled by our treasurer Bill Williams. This year it is the rebuilding of the porch on Rock Cliff Farmhouse, the retirement home of B. W. Wells and his wife, Maude.

Life member and Master Carpenter Ed Osborne volunteered to replace the porch, which had deteriorated badly over the years. Jeff Adolphson, Director for Buildings, John Pelosi and Ed developed a proposal to submit to Falls Lake State Recreation Area Superintendent Scott Kershner. Scott advocated for the proposal and got approval from key State agencies so we could get the work done.



The pictures taken before and after show the results of Ed's work. We no longer have to look at the ugly yellow CAUTION tape that used to surround the porch. Ed donated labor amounting to approximately 215 hours to plan and complete the work.

One of the challenges we faced was to locate special lumber in order to preserve the way in which the porch was constructed originally. Pete Hendricks came to our rescue, allowing us to sort through his stacks of recyclable lumber.

Ed found just the right stuff to replace the porch foundation beams that had rotted out. He also was able to reuse some existing beams so those interested in examining how porches were built back in the day will be able to crawl underneath to find out.

Donated In Memory Of...

John Bruce McDonald grew up with lots of kids who knew B. W. Wells and Maude. He and his friends played on the farm, were friends with the Well's and explored the fields and rock formations on the farm property.

Bruce, as his friends called him was a cub scout and hiked and camped frequently on the property. He fell in love with wood as an adult and spent part of his adulthood salvaging lumber from old buildings with Pete Hendricks. When I asked Pete how much the Association owed him for the tim-



bers Ed had used for the porch Pete said that they didn't really belong to him but had belonged to Bruce. Pete also said that when Bruce was alive he often said he wanted to donate the lumber to a good cause but hadn't identified one.

Pete went on to say it seemed fitting to donate the lumber to the Association in the name of John Bruce McDonald. The Association owes thanks to both Pete and John Bruce McDonald for this contribution.



Cub Scout Tour

Thirty cub scouts and their parents from the Zebulon Baptist Church troop hiked to Ziegler's Rock during their camping trip November 16 through 19. The troop and their parents heard about the history of the rock, including how it was formed and its folklore from John Pelosi. They also hiked up to the Rock Cliff Farmhouse where John gave them a brief presentation on Dr. Wells, his contribution to North Carolina and his retirement at the farm.

The request came from Cub Scout Master Greg Driver through Assistant Park Superintendent Eric Dousharm. Eric has been talking with the Education committee of the Association Board about becoming more involved in helping with hikes and tours for groups camping at the B.W. Wells Group Camping area and this was a first opportunity to respond to such requests.



Presentations and talks

A presentation was made to the Home Economics in Homemaking Club at the Avent Ferry Methodist Church on November 7 by John Pelosi. About 30 women listened to John as he discussed B. W. Wells' contributions to North Carolina and told stories about Dr. Wells, both his professional life and his retirement at Rock Cliff Farm.

The Newcomers Garden Club of Wake Forest will hear Hugh Nourse talk about B. W. Wells and the Association. Hugh will speak to the group on January 22nd.

Memories of B.W. Wells

My name is Robert "Bob" Pless. I was born in 1934 and grew up in Canton, Haywood County, N.C. My grandfather kept boarders at his 100 acre farm at Cruso (near the foot of Mt. Pisgah). Dr. B. W. And Maude Wells were one of his guests. I believe they were doing research in the area as well as vacationing.

When I was about 10 or 12 years old, my brother and I were privileged to take walks with Dr. Wells about the hills on the farm. I remember that he was immediately our friend. He insisted we call him "Bert," and he enjoyed teaching us about the flora on the property. He would tell us the common and Latin names, and have us repeat them back to him. I'm sure you can imagine what an impression he made on us.

One day he set up his easel in the drive to the barn and painted the farmhouse, with Mt. Pisgah in the background. He gave the painting to my grandfather, as I have learned was his custom. The house is gone now; my father, who lived in Canton, was sick for many years after his parents died, and he could not maintain the house. Eventually the house became in disrepair and burned. My father salvaged very little, but the painting survived and was kept in his house

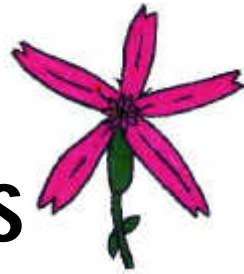


in Canton. After my father and mother died, I came into possession of the painting. I am a retired engineer but a painter also, so, of course, I feel very privileged to have it, especially because I watched Dr. Wells paint it. That has been over *sixty* years ago!

Many thanks to the Committee and the Board of the B. W. Wells Association for perpetuating Dr. Wells's memory. I would like to contribute to that memory and the development of Rock Cliff Farm with a lifetime membership.



B.W. Wells Association



2008 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MARCH 1	SAT 9 - 12	ADOPT A HIGHWAY BENT ROAD CLEANUP DAY
MARCH 5	WED 9 - 4	B.W. WELLS: TARHEEL ECOLOGIST WORKSHOP
MARCH 12	WED 9 - 4	VOLUNTEER TRAIL AND GROUNDS WORK DAY
MARCH 29	SAT 9 - 5	**5TH ANNUAL B.W. WELLS HERITAGE DAY**
APRIL 26	SAT 8 P.M.	*NEW* B.W. WELLS GROUP CAMP STORYTELLING
MAY 3	SAT 10 A.M.	*SPECIAL EVENT* LIFE MEMBER GUIDED BOAT TOUR OF ROCK CLIFF FARM SHORE LINE
MAY 10/17	SAT 9 P.M.	GROUP CAMP PRESENTATION: B.W. WELLS
JUNE 7	TIME TBA	COASTAL LAND TRUST ANNUAL FIELD TRIP TO THE B.W. WELLS SAVANNAH IN PENDER COUNTY CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION.
JUNE 7	SAT 9 - 12	ADOPT A HIGHWAY BENT ROAD CLEANUP DAY
JULY TBA	SAT 9 A.M.	HISTORY OF B.W. WELLS PUBLIC TOUR
AUGUST TBA	SAT 9 A.M.	HISTORY OF B.W. WELLS PUBLIC TOUR
SEPTEMBER 6	SAT 9 - 12	ADOPT A HIGHWAY BENT ROAD CLEANUP DAY
SEPTEMBER 21	SUN 1 - 4	B.W. WELLS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 30	TUE 9 - 4	B.W. WELLS: TARHEEL ECOLOGIST WORKSHOP
OCTOBER TBA	SAT	*NEW* B.W. WELLS GROUP CAMP STORYTELLING
OCTOBER TBA	SAT 7:30 P.M.	GROUP CAMP PRESENTATION: B.W. WELLS
DECEMBER 6	SAT 9 - 12	ADOPT A HIGHWAY BENT ROAD CLEANUP DAY

TO SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS CALL 919-676-1027 OR EMAIL
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: WWW.BWWELLS.ORG

B.W. Wells Association

Membership Information

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

___ Student/Senior	\$10
___ Membership (Individual)	\$15
___ Membership (Patron)	\$50
___ Family	\$30
___ Club/Partner Organization	\$75
___ Life Membership	\$100

BENEFITS:

- Organized walks and lectures
- Interpretive Displays
- Meetings and Newsletters
- Maintained hiking trails
- Educational project for students of all ages

Mission Statement

The B.W. Wells Association will strive to educate the public about B.W. Wells, North Carolina's first plant ecologist, and promote his conservation ethics. The Association will achieve its mission primarily by assisting the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to preserve, restore and interpret the unique cultural and natural resources at Rock Cliff Farm, the site of Wells' retirement.

Vision Statement

The B.W. Wells Association will be the leading resource for educating the public about B.W. Wells and his philosophy of "man living in harmony with nature." The Association will play a major role in restoring Rock Cliff Farm so that it becomes a living legacy of the environmental ethics of B.W. Wells and a source of inspiration to future conservationists.

"Man living in harmony with nature." - B.W. Wells

Visit the B.W. Wells
Association web site at:

www.bwwells.org

ANNOUNCEMENT: If you haven't already renewed your membership in the Association, please consider doing it. Membership extends from the annual meeting in September to the next annual meeting. If you have renewed, consider making a small donation. Contributions to the B. W. Wells Association (including membership dues) are tax deductible under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(a)(vi) of the Internal Revenue code.

B.W. WELLS ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President - John Pelosi
Vice President - Johnny Randall
Treasurer - Bill Williams
Secretary - Jean McCamy
Committee Chair - Earl Creutzburg

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff Adolphsen (Buildings)
Jean Harrison (Archiving)
Patty Ray (Archiving)
Earl Creutzburg (Education)
Vacant (Ways and Means)
Jimmy Ray (Membership)
Liz Ford
Hugh Nourse (Grounds)
Fran Shapiro
Larry Early

ADVISORY BOARD

Margaret Pridgen, Ken Moore, Benson Kirkman
Brian Bockhahn (Newsletter, website)

***Rock Cliff Farm is open for
guided tours only.***

See [web calendar](#) for dates.