



Entrance to the Chapel Hill Historical Society

A complimentary copy of this newsletter has been sent to you if you are not currently a member of the Chapel Hill Historical Society. We invite you to join the Society for the remainder of the year - through September 2007 - for a reduced fee of \$20.

Membership fees support the organization's mission and activities and entitle you to newsletters and invitations to the Society's upcoming programs as described in this bulletin.

Please send your check for \$20 to the Chapel Hill Historical Society, P.O. Box 9032, Chapel Hill, NC, 27516-9032.



## The Chapel Hill Historical Society

US Postage PAID  
Nonprofit Organization  
Permit No. 241  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

The Chapel Hill Historical Society  
Boundary Street  
Entrance at the Chapel Hill Museum  
PO Box 9032  
Chapel Hill, NC  
27516-9032  
Tel: 919.929.1793  
www.ibiblio.org/chhistoc/



# The Chapel Hill Historical Society

*Making the Past Present*

Winter 2007 Newsletter

## Coming to you — Following a fabled fall, a sensational spring

### MONTHLY MENTAL STIMULATIONS...

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**

Thanks to Traci Davenport, Executive Director, Chapel Hill Museum, for a tour of the Museum

**Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**

"African American Life Prior to Integration in Chapel Hill and Durham" with Charlene Register, Department of African & Afro-American Studies & Stone Center Scholar, UNC. 4 pm at the Society Office

**Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**

"The Town and Gown Architecture of Chapel Hill from 1795-1975" with Ruth Little, author. 4 pm at the Society Office

**Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**

Tour of the Love House/Hutchins Forum with Harry Watson, Director of the Center for the Study of the American South. 4 pm at the Love House/Hutchins Forum, 410 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill

### Coming in May...

"Changes in Our Community" with Bob Brogden, East Chapel Hill High School. Reports from the recipients of the Historical Society Public School Educational Grant. Time to be announced. At the Society Office

### MARVELOUS MONTHLY CLASSIC MOVIE NIGHTS...



**Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

"Finding Forrester" introduced by Woody Durham, 7 pm at The Carolina Club

**Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

"On The Town" introduced by Kimball King, 7 pm at The Carolina Club

**Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**

"Titanic" introduced by Bryan Gilliam, Duke University. **Special Time:** 6 pm at The Carolina Club. Special dinner menu commemorating the 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Titanic's sailing.

To make reservations, call  
The Carolina Club - 962-1101 -  
and indicate you are a  
member of the  
Chapel Hill Historical Society.

*And More Inside...*

#### *The Chapel Hill Historical Society 2006-07 Board of Directors*

##### Officers

Kimball King, President  
Terry Barnett, Vice-president  
Eleanor Morris, Secretary  
Carolyn Sturgess,  
Treasurer

##### Board Members

Catharine Carter  
Emilie de Luca  
Roland Giduz  
John Hawkins  
Kathie Heffner  
William Joyner  
Moreton Neal  
Laurie Norman  
Margaret Skinner  
Nancy Tannenbaum  
Vicki Threlfall  
Mary Webb  
Tim West  
Cat Williams

The Chapel Hill Historical Society  
Boundary Street  
Entrance at the Chapel Hill Museum  
PO Box 9032  
Chapel Hill, NC  
27516-9032  
Tel: 919.929.1793  
www.ibiblio.org/chhistoc/

# Celebrating Past & Present

by Kimball King, President

Our Society celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December with a two-day Open House during the Preservation Society's annual House Tour. Each day, we welcomed visitors to our Boundary Street headquarters with cake, punch, historical chatter, and good cheer. We were particularly pleased to join the Preservation Society in marking this happy occasion amid Chapel Hill's distinguished past and continuing special ambience.

As we go forward, our hope is that residents who either return to Chapel Hill later in life or move to other cities and states will always be able to speak with pride of the town that nurtured them. Not only does Chapel Hill boast the first public university in the United States, but it also played a key role in many historical events, such as the underground railway during the Civil War. Chapel Hillians retain that most American of virtues, rugged individualism, and continue to march proudly to their own drummers.

---

*"...we celebrate the history of each of the town's neighborhoods and their residents."*

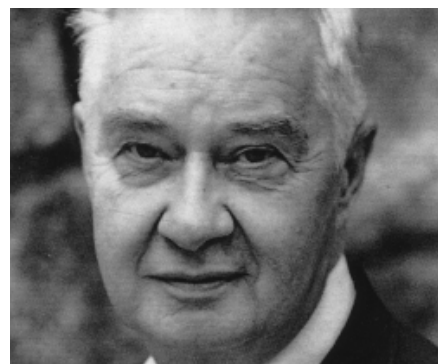
---

Some residents may believe that our Society focuses only on the Franklin/Rosemary and Cameron/McCauley Historic Districts. But in fact, we celebrate the history of each of the town's neighborhoods and their residents. To that end, this fall we began in Greenwood and Southern Village collecting histories of neighborhoods and inviting residents to share their experiences. Soon we will explore other neighborhoods, helping to document the special charms of each and (eventually) all.

In addition we are continuing to fund educational history projects in the public schools through our Public School Educational Grant, to sponsor wonderful evenings of food and movies introduced by local film critics at UNC's Carolina Club, and to offer monthly programs that bring the past very much alive to contemporary audiences—making us all proud to live in "the *historic* Southern Part of Heaven."

## Founding of the Chapel Hill Historical Society

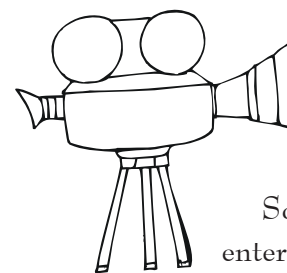
The first meeting of the organization, in the fall of 1966, was held in the Ackland Art Museum where UNC Prof. John Allcott, Director of the Museum, gave a slide-illustrated talk on the history of the Playmakers Theater. UNC Professor of History William S. Powell was the first President and members of the Board of Directors were John Allcott (vice president), Mrs. Frederic Coenen, Roland Giduz, John Harkness, Mrs. John Harkness, Robert Hudgins (treasurer), Mrs. Loren MacKinney, Jr., L.J. Phipps, Corydon Spruill, and Robert Stipe (founder). The directors were also the official incorporators of the organization as a non-profit charity. Annual memberships were offered at prices from \$5 to \$50.



UNC Professor of History, William S. Powell  
First president of the CHHS  
Photo by: John Rosenthal

# Marvelous Movies & Books to Share

## Classic Movie Night



Classic Movie night, held at the UNC Carolina Club, and co-sponsored by the Chapel Hill Historical Society, is a delicious and entertaining way to spend Friday evening. Films are introduced by a local film enthusiast, who then leads a discussion following the showing. And during the film's showing, viewers enjoy a three-course dinner, specially prepared by the Club chefs. The price is \$25.

The Society began this series in 1999 in the auditorium of Carroll Hall on Sunday evenings. Following the second season, we joined forces with The Carolina Club to launch Classic Movie Night. More than 50 movies have been offered in this exciting series.

## Books to Share

For several years, the Chapel Hill Historical Society, in collaboration with local authors, published a number of books and pamphlets about people, events, and the history of the town and University. With the help of Bill and Virginia Powell, more than 1,800 copies of these publications were recently distributed to public, school, and college libraries across the state. The Historical Society is proud to have made these books available to citizens who are interested in the history of the town and campus.



Books published or sponsored by the Chapel Hill Historical Society and distributed to libraries include *These Old Stone Walls*, by Phillips Russell; *Naked Genius*, by George Moses Horton; *Papa D: A Saga of Love and Cooking*, by Edward Danziger; *Growing Up in Chapel Hill*, by Jane Toy Coolidge; *Bill Prouty's Chapel Hill*, by Bill Prouty; *The Campus at Chapel Hill*, by John Allcott; and *Historic Buildings and Landmarks*.



## And A Tip of Our Historical Hat to...

The Chapel Hill Museum for collecting historical photos and materials for its upcoming exhibit on "*The History of Franklin Street*."

The Preservation Society of Chapel Hill for its continuing efforts to preserve our town's architectural heritage and traditions, including its annual Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 7 at the Horace Williams House.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP and The Chapel Hill Public Arts Commission for collecting photos and other memorabilia for their February exhibit highlighting the African American history of Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

The UNC Manuscripts Department for its exhibit, "*I Raised my Hand to Volunteer: Student Protests in 1960s Chapel Hill*," at Wilson Library through May 31.