

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 1 Bynum Front Porch Bingo 7pm
- 8 BFP Pickin 10am – 1pm
- 22 BFP Pickin 10am – 1pm

MARCH

- 1 BFP BINGO 7pm
- 8 BFP Pickin 10am – 1pm
- 15 HRA clean up
- 22 BFP Pickin 10am – 1pm
- 22 Ruritan Fried Chicken/dumpling dinner 4-7pm

APRIL

- 5 BFP BINGO 7pm
- 5 13th Annual Clydefest at the Bynum Ballpark 11 am - 4pm
- 12 BFP Pickin 10am – 1pm
- 19 Ruritan BBQ Supper
- 20 Ruritan Easter Sunrise Breakfast 7am
- 26 BFP Pickin 10am – 1pm

www.bynumfrontporch.org
www.facebook.com/bynumfrontporch
<https://twitter.com/bynumfrontporch>



The Bynum Community GARDEN

The Bynum Community Garden concluded the 2013 summer growing season with a community bonfire and potluck. As usual, the food and company were terrific. Later in the evening, River and Diana spoke about their road trip adventures earlier in the year. It was very entertaining.

Unfortunately, our donations to CORA this year were not up to our normal standards due to the unusually wet weather this summer that caused more tomato wilt and other fungal diseases on our veggies than we typically experience. We're looking forward to a more productive 2014.

We are always interested in increasing community involvement in the garden, so if you are interested in participating in the garden by serving on the steering committee or by renting a bed (\$10-15/year), contact Barclay Spatz. We usually have some gardener turnover, so get your name on the list ASAP.

We will have our usual seed swap/seed starting event sometime in January or February, so watch the listserv for an announcement. It's a great way to share seeds with others and try some new veggies or herbs.

Watch for our announcements regarding our spring open house, and plan to attend our plant sale held on the day of Clydefest. Now is a good time to dig up and thin your perennials. Any donations of extra plants for the sale is always appreciated.

Finally there is still some compost available at the garden for anyone who wants it. Feel free to unlatch the gate and help yourselves. Just remember to re-latch the gate when you leave. Happy New Year and enjoy the longer days! The Garden Committee ☺ Co-written by Larry Crum and Maggie Frantz

RURITAN CLUB NEWS

The Ruritan Club is sponsoring a Chatham Parks and Recreation adult co-ed softball team this spring!!!! Games run from early April to June and are generally played on Sunday afternoons to early evening at the Northeast District Park. We need a minimum of 14 players (20 max). An equal number of males & females will bat and play in the field. A small fee may be required to cover the cost of uniforms. If you are interested in playing on The Bynum Ruritan Softball team, please contact Martha Collins (919-542-7399 or Martha.bynum1@gmail.com) or Steve McDowell (SRMcDowell@gmail.com). This is a great opportunity to get to know your neighbors, make new friends, and have fun in the process!! To meet the county's registration deadline of March 18, please let us know by March 1 if you are interested in joining us. Thanks very much for your continued support.

Corporate Sponsors:

Bynum Front Porch gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors for their support!

Auto Pro
5522 US Hwy 15-501N.
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-0964

Hall-Wynne Funeral Home
396 West Street
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-3057
pittsboro@hallwynne.com
www.hallwynne.com

Hope Crossing Animal Hospital
58 East Cotton Rd
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-1975
www.hopexcrossing.com

Klish and Eldreth, PLLC
304 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27603
Telephone:(919) 833-5322
Fax:(919) 516-0802
law@klisheldreth.com
www.klisheldreth.com

Ways you can help

- * Volunteer on one of the BFP Committees
- * Donate Items from the BFP Wish List
- * Join as a Corporate Sponsor

Wish List

- * A window air-conditioning Unit
- * Licensed Electrician - the building could use some donated skills from a licensed electrician

Thank you all for making a purchase of a Christmas tree, Wreath or Garland during the November Bynum Front Porch (BFP) Fundraiser. Your support helps keep the programming and mission happen.



BYNUM
front porch



newsletter

12th Issue † January 2014

2013 BFP Educational Grants AVID Educational Grant

Bynum Front Porch is thrilled to announce that Monique Cotton (class of 2013 at Chatham Central High School) was selected as the 2013 AVID Educational Grant recipient. Monique is now attending UNC-Charlotte. While at Chatham Central High School Monique made the distinguished list every year for her outstanding grades.

Our Mission:

The Bynum Front Porch organization creates family-friendly events and programs that celebrate the community's rich history and bright future.

About us

They say "once you get that Bynum mud between your toes, you'll always come back" and that is exactly what has kept the town going since the 1800's.

BYNUM at a glance

Newbies

Amy Burke and daughter Alyssa

Sarah Carrington, John Pardue, Eliza & Felix

Lee & Bridgett Crannell & 4 children

Jonathan Harrison

Stephanie Hutto and son Wylie

Justin Stiles

Bill Swindell

Ty Darnell & Edward Walgate

Betsy Wilkins

Deaths

Mrs. Vivian Eubanks

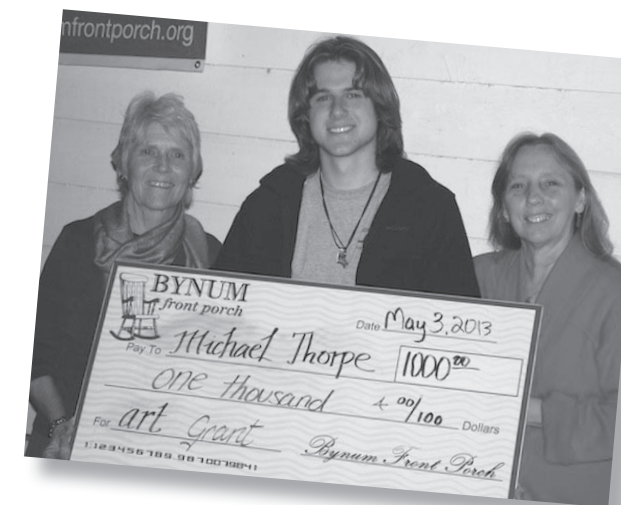
Mr. Greg Hackney

Transplants

Luke Barrow, Devon Brooks & kids: Jayden, Juniper & Kiera

Erik & Jennie Kristianson & kids: Sam & Ellie

Jason & Pam Citrynell & mother Beverly



Arts Grant

Monique was a member of the all county chorus from 2011-2013 and was crowned homecoming queen in the fall of 2012. During her time at Chatham Central, Monique was a member of the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, Peer Mediators Club, Homecoming Court, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Tri-M Club, Upward Bound, Monogram Club, National Senior BETA Club, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She also was the Junior and Senior class president in student council.

Monique was not only a great student but also active in community service and sports. She volunteered at the PTA thrift store, played bass guitar at Rose Hill A.M.E Zion Church, and participated in the CORA Hunger Walk and food drive. Monique competed in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track and field. Bynum Front Porch is proud of Monique's accomplishments and wish her continued success at UNC-Charlotte.

The winner of the 2013 Bynum Front Porch Arts Grant is Michael Thorpe, class of 2013 from Jordan Matthews High School. Michael, who is now attending Warren Wilson College, began exploring the world of ceramic art and pottery in the summer of 2011. On his own he has also participated in a salt firing, a barrel firing and two raku firing classes. In Michael's words, "It was not until I began taking continuing education pottery classes through CCCC that I fell in love with clay and began my quest to know everything about the medium."

Michael's vision of his future is to continue to create a new style of pottery unique to Chatham County and North Carolina. He loves the feel, texture and imagery provided by clay. As an apprentice of world-renowned potter, Mark Hewitt, Michael realizes that his creativity has just begun to be tapped. When Mark realized that Michael won this year's Bynum Front Porch Art's Grant Award he commented, "Michael is a very thoughtful and articulate young man who is rapidly developing his artistic talents. He thoroughly deserves this grant; it is a reward for his dedication and an encouragement for him to take his commitment to the next level." We were proud to award this year's grant to Michael for his pursuit of art and pottery.

2013 was the fifth year of the Bynum Porch Art Grant. Former recipients include: Travis Mann (2009) Art, Savannah College of Art and Design, Katie Absher (2010) Art, Savannah College of Art and Design; Joshua Miller (2011), Central Carolina Community College; Julia Sloane (2012) Dance, Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle Washington.

Chatham County high school seniors interested in applying for the 2014 Arts Grant can go to the Bynumfrontporch.org to download an application. The deadline for submission is March 10, 2014.

BFP is a non-profit organization, your tax deductible donations are always welcome:
950 Bynum Road,
P.O. Box 381, Bynum, NC 27228
bynumfrontporch@gmail.com

www.bynumfrontporch.org

Content for this newsletter to be sent to
Bynumnews@gmail.com

BYNUM: the coming of mill village life to a North Carolina County

Another installment of our sometimes series highlighting an excerpt from the 1985 dissertation by Douglas Paul De Natale, University of Pennsylvania.

In Bynum, there were a string of small mercantile companies which flourished for a time and then went bankrupt. See, for example, the failure of the Poe-Atwater Mercantile Co. reported in the Chatham Record. May 23, 1907; the failure of the Mann-Tillman Co., Chatham Record. October 27, 1909. Even a well-established store such as Atwater & Lambeth, which took the place of the mill's company store in 1907, eventually went bankrupt in the depression of 1929. The Chatham Record of February 7, 1929 reported the bankruptcy to have been caused by "one persistent small creditor, with a \$400 account." According to people in Bynum, the underlying cause for the firm's failure were the many outstanding fertilizer accounts.

In addition to their commercial enterprises, the Bynum family established a network of family ties with the local, neighborhood elite. By the third generation they had intermarried with the Snipes, Ward, Hackney, and Clegg families, all substantial landowners in their neighborhood. Several of Carney Bynum's children, in turn, married into two branches of the Atwater family—an alliance that proved critical in the founding of the Bynum mill. Luther Bangs (1838-1905) and Carney William, Jr. (1844-1909) married daughters of Jehiel Atwater, who, as noted above, was one "of the wealthiest, solidest and most liberal men in that whole country." Carney and Luther's sister Margaret married Jehiel's son, Edmund Warren Atwater. Another sister, Nancy Julia, married Edmund Warren's cousin, John Fletcher Atwater. It was this family and financial alliance that made the Bynum cotton mill a reality.

As wealthy farmers, grist mill owners, exporters, and crossroads merchants before the Civil War, the Bynums filled the positions of neighborhood intermediary and community organizer cited in the previous chapters. Temperamentally, the family was increasingly inclined toward the commercial interests of Pittsboro, a mere five miles away. After selling his share in the family grist mill, Mark Jr. went into partnership with a Pittsboro merchant, Aaron G. Headen, trading as Headen, Bynum & Co. His nephew Luther joined the company sometime before 1867. While the Bynums' immediate family ties remained with their neighborhood elite, they established a close working relationship with the Pittsboro circle. Luther, in particular, became an enthusiastic supporter of H. A. London's reform measures—his role in the stock law controversy has already been mentioned—and he was increasingly linked with W. L. and H. A. London by the county press. Luther rose quickly in the local Democratic hierarchy, and was at various times the secretary of the county Democratic Executive Committee, chairman of the Board of Education, and a member of the county Finance Committee. He was elected county commissioner on the Democratic ticket in 1876 and again during the bitter campaign of 1898.

According to the Bynum family itself, it was a neighborhood impulse that gave birth to the Bynum factory. Anne Bynum, Carney Bynum's daughter-in-law, remembered: When the war was over, Luther and Carney married and began, with a host of their neighbors, the job of rehabilitation.

QUOTES FROM THE BYNUM PAST

Clara Hearne of Bynum reported the following beliefs relating to the phases of the moon to Professor Frank C. Brown:

"Kill hogs when moon is on the increase so the meat will not shrink." "Wheat must not be harvested until after a full moon or the heads will not be ripe."

"Make soap on new moon. It will not shrink."

"Never shingle a roof when the moon is on the wane as the shingles will shrink."

(Clara Hearne Folder, Frank C. Brown Papers, Manuscript Department, Duke University.)

One of their main objectives was to build a cotton mill to furnish employment for men and women who were now penniless and without work. A brick kiln was put into operation and a saw mill was put up. Skilled workmen were brought in to run them, and carpenters and brick-masons boarded [with Carney Bynum]. The cotton mill was finally built and began operation in 1874. Houses for the operatives dotted the hillside and a larger store, "company" store, was built. Also a small school was started in an abandoned building which grew to be a boarding school. Girls especially came from far and near, and boarded [with Carney Bynum] and went to school. His house was always full of company.

In this family account, the Bynums' motives accorded with the image of early southern industrialists as altruistic public benefactors eager to help the impoverished yeoman. Yet in spite of family assertions of altruism, existing evidence suggests that the Bynum Manufacturing Company was a commercial venture at heart. The mill was indeed a neighborhood enterprise, but only in a very restricted sense: the Bynum brothers gathered the capital for their mill from their own family circle of well-to-do neighbors. The six original founders of the mill included the two brothers and their father, and their brothers-in-law: Edmund Warren Atwater and Matthew Atwater. The sixth investor was George W. Thompson, a wealthy farmer who owned some 1400 acres between the Bynum mill and Pittsboro. The majority of the company's initial capital appears to have been furnished not by a host of smallholder neighbors, but by the principals themselves. Between 1872 and 1874, the Bynums engaged in a number of real estate transactions, apparently to help finance the mill. Carney Sr. sold the family toll bridge to the county and mortgaged his homestead to obtain a \$2000 loan. The two Carney Bynums, Senior and Junior, supplied land for the company's factory and mill village, in return for company stock. For his part, Luther sold his interest in the Pittsboro firm of Headen, Bynum & Co., as well as the share he and his wife held in Jehiel Atwater's lands.

Despite the Panic of 1873 that attended its birth, the Bynum Manufacturing Company enjoyed a healthy return on its initial investment. In 1879, the mill was able to pay a 12 percent dividend to its stockholders, and in 1881, the Record reported: "We are not at liberty to publish the dividends of this company, as ascertained at their recent meeting, but we will say this, that we know of no investment in this county that has paid so well." In addition to the company store in Bynum, which replaced the grist mill store and also sold general merchandise to the surrounding countryside, the Bynum Manufacturing Company opened an outlet for its goods in Pittsboro. The personal fortunes of the Bynum family clearly prospered during this period, judging from their real estate transactions. When Carney Sr. died in 1877, the mortgage on his homestead was satisfied, and Luther and Carney were able to purchase the homestead and the grist mill from their coheirs for \$5300. In 1882, Carney purchased 400 acres from fellow company director, George Thompson, and transferred 110 acres to Luther in return for Luther's share in the family homestead. Between 1877 and 1882, Luther acquired an additional 100 acres from Thompson, and another 26 acres in a separate purchase.

Greetings Neighbors!

Bynum United Methodist Church would like to extend an invitation to everyone to our weekly worship services. We gather for worship on Sundays at 11 am. We collaborate with Evergreen and Mount Pleasant UMCs for our youth ministry, children's ministry, and Adult Bible Study. In January, we will hold youth ministry (Branches UMYF), children's ministry (Mustard Seeds), and adult Bible study (Christian Believer) at Mount Pleasant UMC. Branches UMYF meets on Sundays from 6-7:30 pm. Mustard Seeds meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays from 5-6 pm. Christian Believer meets on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30. All are welcome! Watch your Bynum email for details on special services and ministry opportunities. Please feel free to contact Pastor Gina if you have questions about the church ministries, your relationship with God, or just need someone to listen. The parsonage phone number is 919-542-4715. "Like" us out on Facebook: Bynum United Methodist Church.

THE HAW RIVER Canoe & Kayak Co

We are closed for the season until March 1, 2014. Based out of Saxapahaw for the past 8 years, we started "to get our feet wet" in Bynum in 2013. We teach beginner to immediate-level canoeing, kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding, guide over 20 different trips, including at least 3 night-time trips each month and rent canoes, kayaks & stand-up paddleboards on over 30 miles of the river in Guilford, Alamance and Chatham Counties. In addition, we conduct 7 five-day paddling/adventure camps and offer two camping platforms for rent on the Haw River for overnight camping trips.

All of our classes, guided trips and rentals are done on a reservation basis, first come - first serve. We can accommodate walk-ups in Saxapahaw and hope to accommodate drive-ups in Bynum on weekends only at the Hwy. 15-501 parking lot next to the bridge over the Haw River where we have an agreement with the county to conduct business. I use the phrase "hope to" because our ability to efficiently operate on weekends in Bynum will be dependent on finding the right individual to handle our Bynum operations. Perhaps there is someone who lives in the greater Bynum-area that would like to contact us about weekend work. If we can find someone local it will mean that we will be able to accommodate folks during the week as well as the weekend.

Contact us:

web: www.hawrivercanoe.com

call: 336-260-6465

e-mail: info@hawrivercanoe.com.

Haw River

ASSEMBLY *Save the Date!*

The 24th annual Haw River Clean-up will take place on Saturday March 15, 2014. Once again, teams of volunteers will spread throughout the Haw River watershed to pick up trash along the waters before it becomes a threat to water quality, paddlers, fishers, swimmers and wildlife. We provide the supplies and organizing to support these great volunteers.

Join the Bynum team! Contact us at info@hawriver.org or (919) 542-5790.

SPRING FISHING at Haw River

As the cold weather and chilly winds start to diminish and the water temperatures start to raise, hopes of catching fish on the Haw River increases every day. To outdoor enthusiasts, it's like Christmas morning or being a young child and going to the toy store for the first time! It's an unbelievable feeling of excitement. The spring fishing season begins in the middle of February and can last until late May. Several fish species, such as Largemouth Bass, Bluegills, Perch and, my favorite, Crappie, are hungry from several months of inactivity and start moving from their hidden spots from the winter months and move into shallow water for feeding. Fisherman, with patience to fish live bait and small lures can have an exciting day if willing to wade and cover territory in the river by boat or walking will have success. Most fishermen often look for areas with slow moving currents behind downed timber trees, weed vegetation, or rock structures that could potentially provide habitat for fish to feed.

There are several keys to check on when planning a trip to fish the river. One key is water temperature. As temperatures start to climb up into the mid 50 to upper 60 degree range, fish will become more active. Another key is to fish shallow water depths, usually between one to four feet deep. This depth range will warm up more quickly with longer days and the fish usually prefer feeding in the late afternoons. With the right conditions, the fishing this time of year can be very exciting.

Remember fishing is not an exact science. The best way to catch fish is to not tie yourself down into fishing one specific pattern. Try many different techniques of lures, jigs, colors and depths until you locate the fish. The beauty about fishing the Haw River is that you never really know what you may catch! Some of the other types of fish species that you may catch are: White Bass, Bodie (hybrid-striped) Bass, several species of sun fish such as; Bluegill, Shell Crackers, White Perch, and Green Sunfish. Also while fishing you may catch several bottom feeding species such as: Channel, Bullhead, and White Catfish and the Common Carp. Several of these species have size and creel limits and make sure to check the NC Wildlife Resources Commission's webpage for regulations (www.ncwildlife.org).

Please be careful while experiencing the river. Winter and spring temperatures of both the air and water can make hypothermia a serious risk. Please wear life jackets when boating or wading in the river and use extreme caution while wading.

Remember, the Haw River at times can be at different depths due to river fluctuations and currents. Be extremely careful when wading around slippery rocks and watch for debris hazards when walking in the water. On a final thought, practice catch and release to ensure that our future generation can enjoy the wonderful fishing experience on the

Haw River. Have a safe and naturally wonderful experience!

☀️ Written by Jordan Lake State Recreation Park Staff

Jordan Lake State Recreation Area is now accepting applications for 2014 Summer Position. Jordan Lake SRA park team offers positions for General Utility Workers and Park Attendants. For more information please visit <http://ncparks.gov/Jobs/main.php> or stop by the Jordan Lake SRA park office

