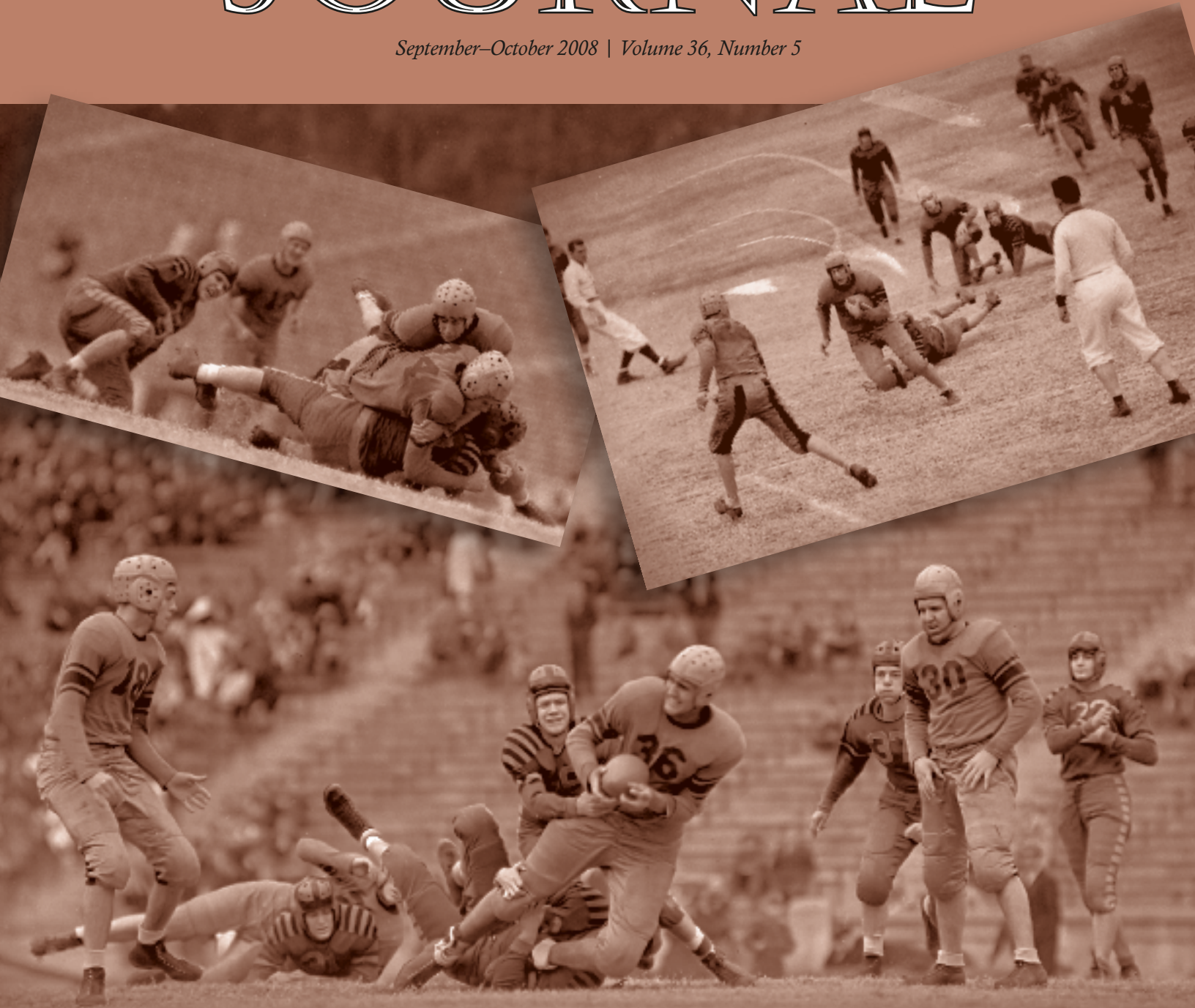




JOURNAL

September–October 2008 | Volume 36, Number 5



FOOTBALL 1938



*Greensboro Senior High (solid uniform)
in the state championship game, 1938*
Carol W. Martin/GHM, Inc. Collection

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Director's Corner

by Fred Goss

As many of you have noticed there is a skeleton of scaffolding surrounding the museum. Brewer Scaffolding started installing the framework on June 23 the same day as our annual city council luncheon. The timing could not have been better. We are appreciative of all the companies and individuals that have worked for many months on the City bond work and are seeing their efforts become a reality.

Our thanks to our City project manager Jerome Williams and Ronald Coleman of Sutton Kennerly and Associates, Inc. for their development of the bid specifications and construction documents. Sutton Kennerly's restoration resume of historic properties includes the Biltmore Estates Conservatory, the Alumni House at UNCG, and the Alamance County Court House.

Two more professional firms are involved in the restoration process. Century Slate Company of Durham is under contract to restore the building's slate roof. They specialize in slate roofing and have worked on numerous historic properties including the First Presbyterian Church, the Biltmore Estate, Campbell Hall at Virginia Tech University and the Temple of Israel in Wilmington. Roughly fifty percent of the roof will be new slate matched to the current shingles.

Brooks Millwork of Greensboro will replace the wood trim and gutters in close coordination with the roof restoration. Brooks is a member of the Greensboro Builders Association and specializes in all phases of millwork production. They have done business in Greensboro at the same location since 1895.

Museum Shop Update: The Greensboro City Council has approved the 2008-2009 city budget which included the elimination of the full time Museum Shop manager position. ***The Shop will continue to operate under reduced hours in the coming months with a new schedule of 11-4 Tuesday-Saturday.*** The Board's gift shop committee is continuing to study long term options for continued operations. There will be additional updates about the shop in upcoming Journals. I am pleased to announce that Dawn Kouba has secured the position of Library Coordinator at the Glenwood Branch Library. I appreciate the high level of customer service that Dawn and the shop staff have provided to the community during her tenure and wish her the best as she continues her career with the Library Department.



Good Night and Good Luck

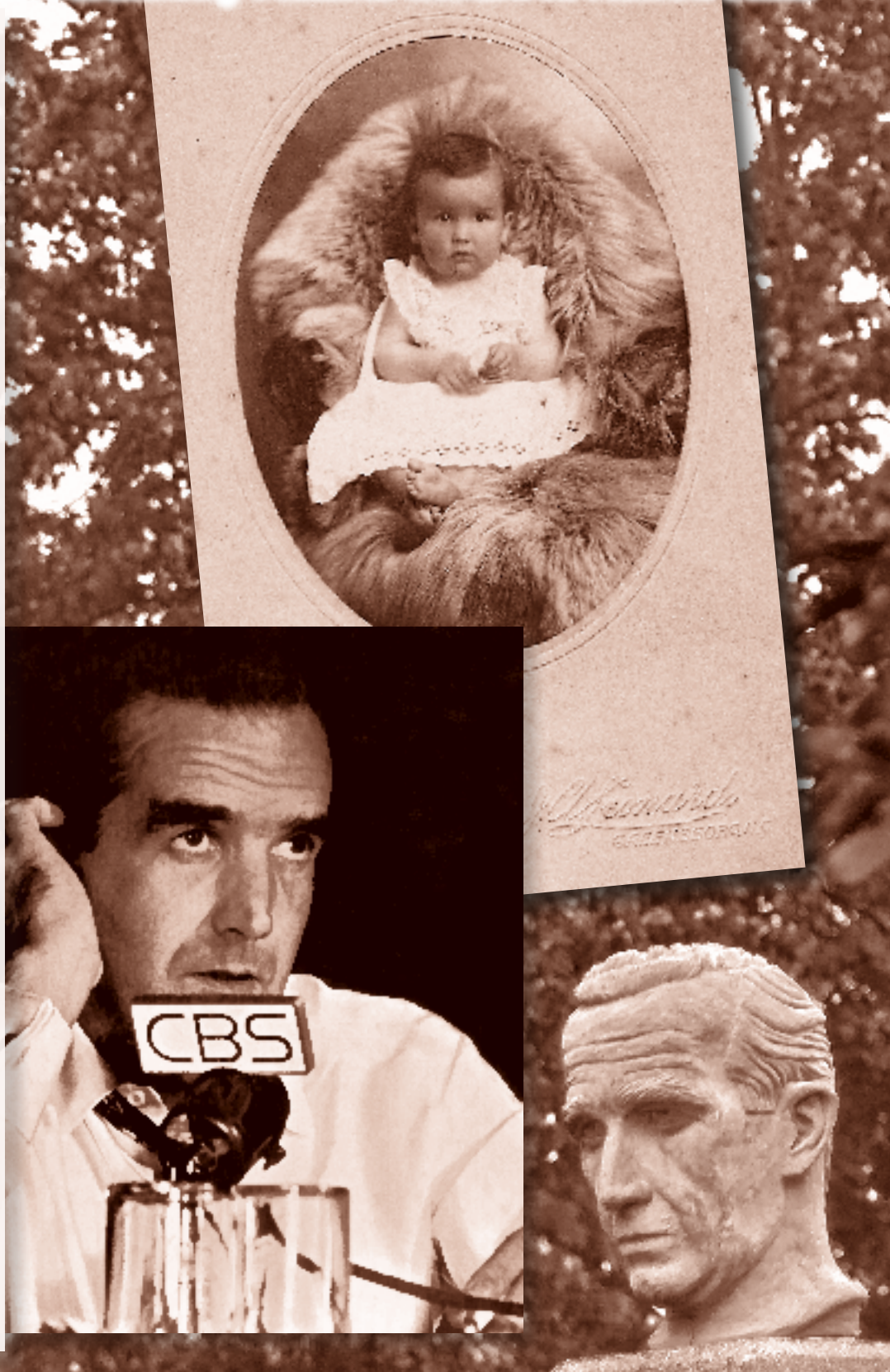
Museum–UNCG Program Partnership Features Edward R. Murrow Films

by Fred Goss
Director

With such a busy bicentennial year with a wealth of events and programs one would think that the city has celebrated every facet of Greensboro's history. Such is not the case. The Greensboro Historical Museum and the University of North Carolina-Greensboro Jackson Library are recognizing Guilford County's native son Edward R. Murrow with a film and lecture series. On October 19 at 2:30 p.m. the museum will recognize Murrow's contributions to television journalism with the screening of the George Clooney-directed drama *Good Night and Good Luck* in Mary Norris Preyer Hall. The film centers on Murrow's use of television to combat Senator Joseph McCarthy's investigations against presumed communists in the 1950s. Afterwards, UNCG professors will answer audience questions about subject matter and the film's accuracy.

Our program partner UNCG's Jackson Library is screening two Murrow films in October as well. A documentary on Murrow's and McCarthy's confrontations in the 1950s will be shown on October 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Maple Room of the Elliott University Center. Edward R. Murrow's own documentary *Harvest of Shame* which focused on the working conditions of migrant workers in the United States will be shown October 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Maple Room of the Elliott University Center.

Reservations for the museum's program are recommended starting September 15. Please call 373-2043 to reserve a seat.



Collections Unveiled

King of the Road

by Jon B. Zachman
Curator of Collections

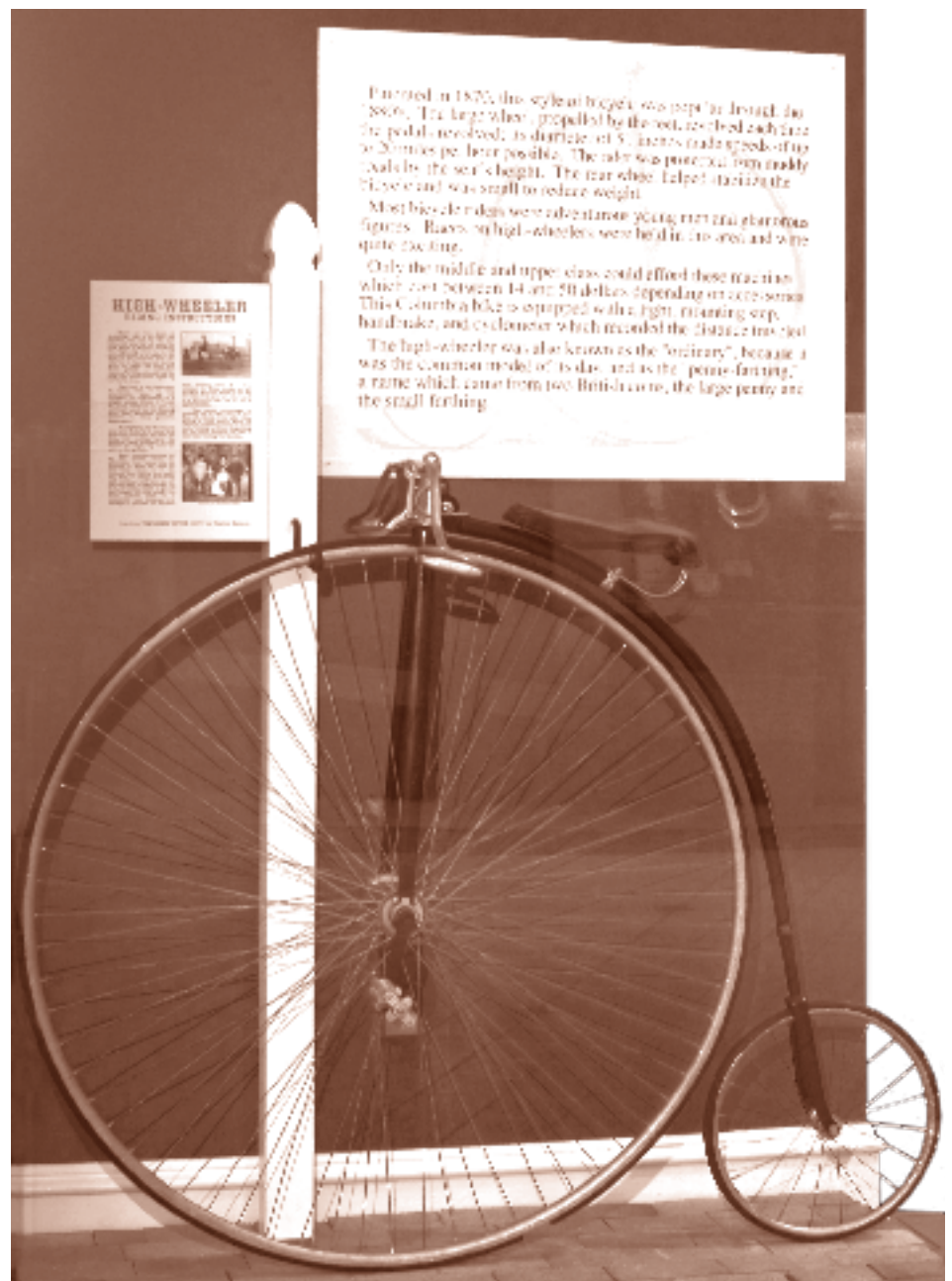
Has the high cost of fuel got you thinking about alternative ways to get around Greensboro? More than 100 years old, the bicycle remains one of the cheapest and most efficient means of transportation. Precursors of the modern bicycle include the German Draisine or hobby-horse, the French Velocipede or “boneshaker” and English Ordinary or High Wheel. On display in the museum lobby is the earliest bicycle in the collection, a late nineteenth century American-made High Wheel bicycle.

In the United States the Pope Manufacturing Company made the first American bicycle—the Columbia High Wheel—in 1878. As a bicycle craze swept across the country in the 1890s, dozens of repair shops and manufacturers emerged including the Wright Cycle Exchange, started by Wilbur and Orville Wright in Dayton, Ohio in 1892, and the Indiana Bicycle Manufacturing Company, which made the museum’s High Wheel bicycle.

Manufactured in 1892, this King of the Road model has ram’s horn handlebars with spade-shaped handles, a suspended saddle and two accessories: a hub lamp and a cyclometer that recorded the number of miles pedaled. Its large 52” diameter front wheel was ideally suited for a rider with a 33” inseam. Despite this bicycle’s sensitivity to crosswinds and its tendency to tip over on uneven surfaces, High Wheel bicycles like this model initially appealed to racers and members of local cycling clubs.

Ongoing concerns about injuries and new innovations led to the decline of the High Wheel’s popularity and the creation of a new machine called the safety bicycle. Made with wheels of identical or near identical size and a chain-driven rear wheel, the safety bicycle had a much lower center of

gravity that significantly reduced the risk of tipping over and made breaking much easier. Today’s bikes, which come in dozens of styles employing the latest technological advances, rely on the same basic design of the safety bicycle introduced more than a century ago.



Passport to History

“Be Strong and of Good Courage”

The Life of Caroline Gillespie Gorrell

by Linda Evans

Curator of Community History

Born into one of Greensboro's founding families on October 23, 1827, she is one of only three women honored with a chapter in *Founders and Builders of Greensboro 1808-1908*. We have part of a portrait and an intriguing photograph of her West Market Street millinery shop. An organization's minutes recall her dedication to a cause, as do words from her eulogy. All the pieces just make you want to know more about Catherine Caroline Gillespie Gorrell, or as the newspaper referred to her, Mrs. C.C. Gorrell.



Carrie Gillespie was born at the old Gillespie homestead in south Greensboro. Relatives said that she inherited “great energy, resolution, deep religious fervor and undaunted courage” from her grandfather Daniel, a Revolutionary War veteran and politician. She married Frank Gorrell and moved to his hometown of Winston, where the couple welcomed two boys. Nothing is known of the years spent raising Robert and Frank, only that by 1871 she had become a widow and moved back to Greensboro with her sons.

Something led Gorrell to open a hat shop on the 100 block of West Market Street. Perhaps it was necessity, but records hint that intellect and ambition played a role. “She soon became a conspicuous figure in the business world, achieving a marked success,”



one observer described, adding that “the best business men” came to her for advice. Gorrell & Co.'s owner possessed “faultless taste,” offering goods of “elegant style.” Gorrell lived above the store for a while and then built a house a few blocks away on Ashe Street. She offered her former living space for the state headquarters of the WCTU.

“It is a commodious room 40 by 50,” noted an 1885 account, “decorated with numerous pictures, mottoes, brackets &c.” When Carrie Gorrell became a charter member of the local Woman's Christian Temperance Union, she took its many social causes to heart. She volunteered for local, state and national offices, and enjoyed the friendship of national founder Frances Willard. After retirement, she continued to support the WCTU, and by the time of her



Weaver Academy students Sarah Fleming and Sara Faust honored Carrie Gillespie in the 2008 Bicentennial parade.

death in 1905, had “the joy of seeing every saloon in Greensboro closed.”

Prohibition ended in 1933, and Gorrell's Millinery Shop and Ashe Street home are gone, too. But next time you drive down Martin Luther King Drive, look to your left in as you approach the former Caldwell School and you'll see part of a WCTU water fountain - inscribed to the memory of Caroline Gillespie Gorrell.





MERRY MONDAY SALE

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 22
10-5

BOOKS
POTTERY
JEWELRY
HANDBAGS
PILLOWS
SEASONAL ITEMS
BARGAIN PRICES



NEW SHOP HOURS
TUESDAY~SATURDAY 11~4
SUNDAY 2~5
(336) 373-2949

Welcome to the Museum Guild!

by Dene Mead
Guild President

All members of the Greensboro Historical Museum are invited to join the Guild. Founded by volunteers in 1975 to "further [their] knowledge of history," the Guild meets on the third Monday of each month from September to May.

Each year the Guild enjoys wonderful programs about the museum and the history of Greensboro. During the past year Director Fred Goss talked about the museum's "Plans for the Future;" author Barbara Moran offered snapshots of the women highlighted in her book, *Voices of the Silent Generation*; Justice Henry E. Frye shared his insights on the Bill of Rights; Crystal Edwards from the Bicentennial Commission revealed plans for the 2008 celebration; and Chuck Cranfield, Superintendent of the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, discussed the park's commemoration of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. In December and May, Guild members enjoy lunch together at local country clubs or other historical sites. Many fine programs are planned for 2008-2009.

Guild members occasionally enjoy traveling. Trips have included sites in Greensboro – Tannenbaum Historic Park, Blandwood, and the David Caldwell Historic Park, around North Carolina – Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Spencer, and Charlotte, and in Virginia – Lynchburg, Danville, Williamsburg, and Norfolk.

The Guild also supports the museum. Projects have included purchasing objects for the collections, equipping the kitchen when the Lindsay wing opened, and providing equipment to enhance the work of the curators. Guild volunteers serve as docents, shop keepers, Traveling Trunk Troupers, and receptionists. Guild members decorate the Chrismon Tree in the Rotunda each year and volunteer as ushers and hostesses at special events. The Guild assisted with the first holiday open house in 1977 and for many years prepared and served the annual city government luncheon.

Guild members enjoy history and the fellowship of like-minded folks. We are museum members and pay Guild dues of \$25 per year to support our programs and museum projects. Guests are always welcome, so please, join us for our first meeting on Monday, September 15 at 10 a.m.

2008-2009 Museum Guild Officers

President: Dene Mead
First Vice-President: Lois Edinger
Second Vice-President: Bonnie Morrah
Secretary: Nancy Jones
Treasurer: Sara Stuart
Membership: Josie Gibboney,
Doris Bond
Publicity: Martha and Bob Demaree
Hospitality: Jane Lambert, Barbara Cummings
Guild Directory: Carol Moore



Museum Guild, 1970s

Event Calendar

September

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Monday, September 1
Museum Closed

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

DOCENT ORIENTATION
Thursday, September 4, 9:15-11:45 a.m.

DOCENT TRAINING

September 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, & 25,
9:25-11:45 a.m.

DESK RECEPTIONISTS

Wednesday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m.
or Thursday, September 18 at 3 p.m.

TRAVELING TRUNK TROUPERS

Wednesday, September 24 at 11:30 a.m.
For more information call 333-6831

5 BY O. HENRY

September 5, 6, 12, 13 at 8 p.m.
September 7, 13, 14 at 3 p.m.
Tickets for Opening Night
Champagne Reception \$20
All other shows \$12 & \$10
Call 373-2043 for tickets beginning August 1

BELLE MEADE SOCIETY

FALL GATHERING

Monday, September 29 at 6:00 p.m.
Gayle Fripp shares Greensboro history
Reservations required;
Invitations to follow

October

GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK

Sunday, October 19 at 2:30 p.m.
See the George Clooney film and
talk about it afterwards with UNCG
professors
FREE—Call 373-2043 for reservations

GHOST STORIES IN THE GRAVEYARD WITH CYNTHIA BROWN

Saturday, October 26 at Noon
Bring a blanket and youngsters and
be ready for fun **FREE**

GHOULASH

HAUNTED CEMETERY WALK

Saturday, October 26 from 5–9
You never know who you'll meet
from Greensboro's past **FREE**

November

ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, November 11, 2008
6:30 p.m. Social
7:00 Dinner
Greensboro Country Club
Reservations required;
Invitations to follow

Honoraria

LINDA EVANS

gift from
Nancy Jones

sunday, october 19 at 2:30 p.m.

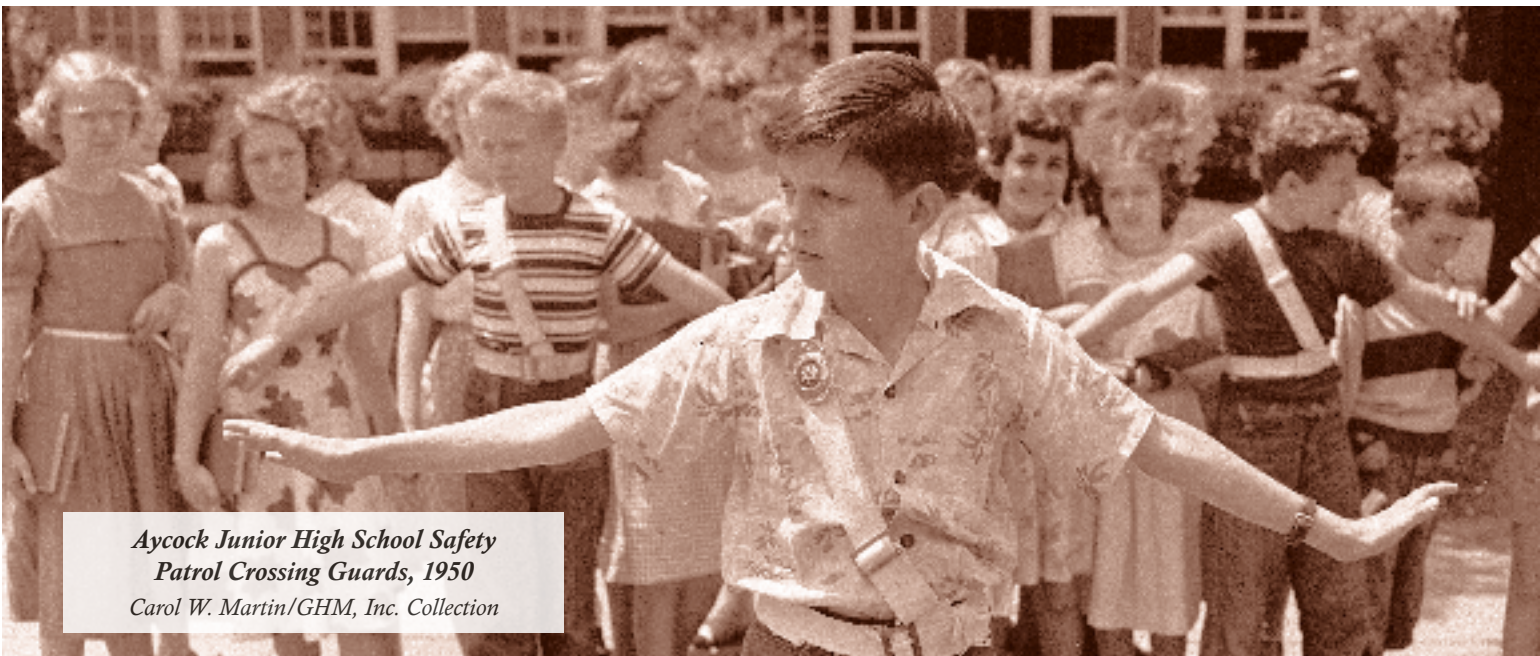
david strathairn
patricia clarkson
george clooney
jeff daniels

robert downey jr.
frank langella

we will not walk in fear of one another

**good night,
and good luck.**

THE FILM "GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK" IS A PRODUCTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL. THE FILM IS A PARTIAL REPRODUCTION OF A FILM BY JAMES H. HANCOCK. THE FILM IS A PARTIAL REPRODUCTION OF A FILM BY JAMES H. HANCOCK. THE FILM IS A PARTIAL REPRODUCTION OF A FILM BY JAMES H. HANCOCK.



*Aycock Junior High School Safety
Patrol Crossing Guards, 1950*
Carol W. Martin/GHM, Inc. Collection



Are you among the audience of thousands anxiously anticipating the return of **5 by O. Henry** this September? This year's stories are absolutely hilarious and you won't want to miss them.

The playbill features *The Octopus Marooned*, *The Memento*, *While the Auto Waits*, *Tobin's Palm*, & *The Whirligig of Life*.

\$10 for Museum Members,
Seniors, and Students
\$12 General Admission

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED BY
CALLING (336) 373-2043

September 5, 6, 12, 13 at 8 p.m.
September 7, 13, 14 at 3 p.m.

5 by O. Henry

OPENING NIGHT PARTY

Champagne reception
with the cast
Friday, September 5
After the show
\$20 per person



130 Summit Avenue
Greensboro, N.C. 27401
www.greensborohistory.org
336-373-2043

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FREE ADMISSION **Museum Hours**

Tuesday—Saturday 10–5
Sunday 2–5

Museum Shop Hours
Tuesday—Saturday 11–4
Sunday 2–5

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