The State Capitol Foundation Board continues to make significant progress towards goals outlined last year. Kim Shope is leading an impressive group of volunteers and Board members in re-branding the State Capitol Foundation with valuable marketing and fund raising tools. At the October Board meeting, historic preservation consultant Joseph Opperman, FAIA, presented a proposal for a master plan for the Capitol and Union Square. The master plan is an important document because it articulates a broad vision for the Capitol’s preservation and upkeep. These two items are priorities of the Board, and it is good to see them advance.

Also in October, the Capitol hosted two important lectures on the life of North Carolina’s first surveyor, John Lawson. The lectures were part of a symposium held to commemorate the 300th anniversary of Lawson’s famous work, *A New Voyage to Carolina*.

The sidewalk replacement is complete and the walkways are beautiful. Eighty years of wear had taken a toll on the Olmsted Brothers’ original work and it is thrilling to see how the walkways originally appeared. Best of all, the sidewalks are now compliant with the guidelines set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act, making the Capitol universally accessible. The landscape firm of Little and Little is to be congratulated for their thoughtful and elegant work.

As you are no doubt aware, these are difficult economic times for our nation and our state. The N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, whose talented staff runs many of the state’s important historic public structures, has been forced to make significant budgetary cuts. The Foundation is charged with monetary assistance and we need all the help that we can get. If you are in a position to help with funding the important programs at the Capitol, please do so. We can’t thank you enough for your continued and support of North Carolina’s most important civic landmark.
Fresh Approach Brings Senate Chamber to Life

By Terra Schramm, Education & Outreach

As much as we wish that the weathered walls of the Capitol could talk, the staff is concentrating instead on the stories of the building’s former occupants to create a fuller interpretation of the Capitol’s 170-year history. Photographs of past Capitol personalities and a new display in the Senate Chamber are part of the new “Capitol Voices” initiative.

Visitors to the Senate Chamber now see a desk that looks as though Senator Jonathan Worth has just stepped away during a session break. Handwritten copies of bills, a steel nib pen, and blotting papers cover the desk while stacks of books and papers spill to the floor. A coat hangs on the back of the chair and a hat teeters on the edge of the desk.

Jonathan Worth, who was among the first senators to occupy the chamber after the building opened in 1840, is just one of the Capitol’s many remarkable figures. During his more than 25 years of public service, Worth worked in the Capitol in several different capacities. Docents use the desk to discuss his work as a state representative, senator, treasurer and governor, which makes his narrative a particularly meaningful addition to the new interpretation.

Besides seeing how Senator Worth’s desk may have looked, school children on docent-led tours are also learning about other notable North Carolinians who worked in the Senate Chamber. Docents have begun using images of the 1917 Senate in session, Abraham Galloway, Gertrude Dills McKee, and Luther Hodges as visual aids. In part, this approach seeks to help students visualize how North Carolina has changed over time. Many docents are using the images and individual narratives as entry points to discussions on other crucial topics in history (like women’s suffrage and the Civil Rights Movement) as they relate to North Carolina and the Capitol.

While the new elements in the Senate Chamber are a strong start for “Capitol Voices”, the search for new voices is ongoing. The goal of this long-range project is to bring to life the stories of the people who worked here, whether they toiled as groundskeepers or governors. Staff members continue to seek out and research additional personalities to introduce to the public in future programs, lectures, exhibits, and publications. If you know of a compelling individual who once worked at the Capitol, please feel free to send that information to our staff for consideration. You can e-mail your comments and suggestions to state.capitol@ncdcr.gov with “Capitol Voices” as the subject heading.

Senator Jonathan Worth
1840-1842, 1858-1861

Worth served three terms in the state Senate. In 1858, he was made chairman of a committee to investigate the poorly-run North Carolina Railroad. He pursued this official duty so relentlessly that the president of the Railroad, formerly a good friend, challenged Worth to a duel; the senator declined. During and after the Civil War, Worth acted as the state Treasurer until 1865 when he was elected governor.

Senator Abraham Galloway
1868-1870

Born into slavery in 1837, Galloway escaped to Canada at age 20 by hiding in a barrel of turpentine. He was a fierce abolitionist and became a Union spy in 1862. After the war, he helped organize the 1865 Freedmen’s Convention in Raleigh. He represented New Hanover County at the 1868 constitutional convention and was elected to two consecutive terms in the state Senate.

Senator Gertrude Dills McKee
1931-1933, 1937-1939, 1941-1943

McKee was first elected to the Senate in 1931, becoming the state’s first female senator. She jokingly referred to her 49 male colleagues as “my children.” As chair of the public welfare committee, she took a special interest in child labor laws and old age assistance. Voters returned her to the Senate for three non-consecutive terms and some speculated that she might become the state’s first woman governor.

Lt. Governor Luther H. Hodges
1953-1954

Hodges served as North Carolina’s lieutenant governor for just one year before taking over as governor upon the death of Gov. Umstead. As lieutenant governor, Hodges’ primary responsibility was to preside over the state Senate. In 1956, he was elected on his own to a four-year term as governor. As governor, Hodges promoted industrialization and education, while attempting to limit racial tension.
The Capitol gift shop is stocked with wonderful new items (and some old favorites) just in time for the holidays! Current State Capitol Society members receive a 25% discount on most items and proceeds from the sale of these items benefit the on-going restoration of the Capitol and the site’s educational programs.

1. William Mangum keepsake box
   Made of cherry wood, the top of the box features William Mangum’s painting of the Capitol. 6 3/4" x 5" $60.00  Society Members: $45

2. William Mangum note cards
   Note cards feature William Mangum’s painting of the Capitol. Box of 8 cards with envelopes. $10  Society Members: $7.50


4. Union Square Acorn Birdhouse ornament
   Handmade by members of the North Carolina Woodturners Guild, these unique ornaments are made from magnolia and oak trees that once grew on Union Square. Prices vary.

5. North Carolina State Capitol ornament
   This ornament made its debut in 1983 as the first in the N.C. Museum of History’s much-loved ornament series. Solid brass with 24-karat gold plating. $12  Society Members: $9
## Great Holiday Gifts


8. *Spirit of the Capitol* print by Lenore De Pree. 24”x 31.5” Signed & numbered $20 (orig. $50)

9. State Capitol Double Old-Fashioned glass
   A Capitol exclusive! These handsome glasses boast an etched image of the North Carolina State Capitol and can be purchased individually or in sets. $5 each; set of four $20. Height 4”


All items can be purchased at the Capitol’s reception desk during regular business hours or by contacting the gift shop manager, Loretta Mainquist, at 919-715-3959 or loretta.mainquist@ncdcr.gov.
Developing our goal to broaden interpretation of the people and perspectives that make this building great, the Capitol will begin introducing several new exhibit components this fall. Currently on display through January 19, 2010, *Checks and Balances: How Government Works at the North Carolina State Capitol*, is an exhibit that explores composition and operation of the state’s leadership. At the same time, we’ll begin displaying new interpretive panels on each floor. Each presentation is part of the “Capitol Voices” initiative, in which we’ll be blending more biography and personal narrative into the historical interpretation of the building.

*Checks and Balances* begins with a simple premise: how would government look to a relative newcomer? Meet George, a page to the 1874 House of Representatives. In this new exhibit, visitors can join George as he learns how government worked at the State Capitol. Written to engage children and adults alike, the organization of state government is explained from the fictional page’s point of view. Throughout the exhibit, George will discover how the Capitol functioned during Governor Curtis Brogden’s administration. Visitors will find exhibit panels at the Office of the Governor, in the north hall suites, in the legislative chambers and on the third floor.

George will introduce the fundamentals of North Carolina’s government, which remain largely unchanged from the 1870s, while some labels will explore how government is run differently today. The young page will investigate aspects of North Carolina’s government that may surprise some visitors, such as what the duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms entail or exactly how a bill becomes law in North Carolina. Many stations will pose questions to provoke visitors into thinking about core concepts of state administration while other panels will present trivia segments highlighting interesting facts about our government. For example, in the 1870s (when George is telling his story), the governor did not have veto power and could not serve a consecutive term. Each of these factors changed while Governor Jim Hunt was in office. In 1980, Hunt became the first governor elected to a second consecutive term and in 1996, he was the first governor in North Carolina to receive veto power.

A second addition you can expect to see is the introduction of interpretive signage to many areas of the building. These new panels will be placed in areas currently without labels. The first panel, placed beside the security desk, will serve to orient new visitors to the Capitol. It includes a letter of welcome from the site administrator, as well as floor plans of the building. Another, created specifically for visitors unable to travel to the third floor, will introduce the historic rooms on the upper story. Yet another panel will explain the purpose of the third floor documents room, where we believe the Bill of Rights was stored before it was stolen at the close of the Civil War.

It’s our hope that the exhibit and new interpretive signage will introduce visitors to a new side of this historic building, as well as inspiring them to learn more about how their predecessors and contemporaries spent their time here. As we continue working to bring some of these personal perspectives back to the Capitol, I hope you will join us.

For more information about these or any other Capitol exhibits, please contact Tiffianna Honsinger at 919-715-3981.

The inspiration for George the page came from this 1874 photograph of the House of Representatives. “George” (circled above) will help visitors learn how North Carolina’s government works throughout the exhibit. Photo courtesy of the North Carolina State Archives.
From the Site Administrator: Capitol Voices

The State Capitol has been witness to almost 170 years of political and social history—from antebellum life to Civil War occupation to the civil rights and equal rights movements. In honor of the men and women who toiled to create this building as well as those who have worked within it, the State Capitol will be focusing on “Capitol Voices” in the next few years, highlighting the personal narratives of the people who engaged with this beautiful building.

Focusing on personal stories is richly rewarding, but can also pose challenges. Whose stories get told? What level of complexity should we include? How do we provide context for past behavior that may be challenging to understand in the light of contemporary life and values? The Capitol staff is now in the process of exploring how to best use personal narrative to introduce our visitors to a new side of the Capitol—one that includes personal narrative as a way to better understand the history of this building. Our plan is to include these Capitol voices in interpretive panels, public programs and our Web site.

In the coming years, we’ll be talking about people like Governor Vance and citizens like Elizabeth Chamberlain of Yadkin County, who voiced her own heartbreaking story in a letter to the Governor during the Civil War. We’ll be talking about people like Abraham Galloway who transitioned from slavery to activism, becoming a legislator within his short lifetime. We’ll be talking about architect David Paton and his struggle to complete the Capitol in spite of politics and budgetary issues. And we’ll be talking about the many men and women who worked to ensure that government could function in the Capitol—they carved the stone, lit the candles, and stoked the fires that kept the General Assembly, State Supreme Court and Governor working.

It’s going to be interesting. It’s going to be fun. And it will yield a richer, more complex Capitol story. Join us for a new adventure!

Calendar of Events

**Checks & Balances: How Government Works at the N.C. State Capitol exhibit**

**On display through Jan. 19, 2010**

This exhibit will allow children and adults alike to discover how North Carolina's government works.

**Constitutional Tales with Ann McColl**

**November 5, call 919-733-4994 for time**

The constitution is not only a historical document—it provides the foundation upon which laws and policy are made in our own times. In this program, McColl will explore why our state has such a long ballot of state elected officials and the often-time amended relationship between the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

*Ann McColl is adjunct professor of public law and government at the School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill and associate professor of educational leadership at UNC-Charlotte and an attorney.*

**Capitol Statuary Tour**

**November 14, 12:30 p.m.**

Join a member of the Capitol staff for a closer look at the 14 monuments on Union Square. Learn about the artists, symbolism and the sometimes surprising history of these public monuments. Tour will begin at the George Washington statue on the south plaza. Weather permitting.

**Governor’s Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Festival**

**December 10, 5:30 p.m.**

Festivities begin with the lighting of luminaries and musical performances on the Capitol grounds. The Governor and First Gentleman will light the state Christmas Tree during the traditional ceremony on the west grounds. After the ceremony, visitors are invited inside the Capitol for an open house to take in the Raleigh Garden Club’s decorations. The Junior Woman’s Club of Raleigh will host a holiday festival featuring music and children’s activities on Union Square, in the museums, and on Bicentennial Plaza. Subject to change based on the Governor’s schedule.

**Holiday Open House**

**December 10-13**

Th-Fri: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sat: 9 a.m.-4p.m.; Sun: 1-4 p.m.

The Capitol will be decorated for the holidays by the Raleigh Garden Club. Local performing groups will provide concerts of holiday music daily during the open house.
Become a Pillar of Society: Doric, Ionic, or Corinthian State Capitol Society Membership Form

Membership benefits include a handsome cast-metal State Capitol pin, yearly membership card, subscription to 
*Anthemion* quarterly newsletter, reduced rates for annual history excursions, reduced admission to Capitol 
social events, invitations to public programs, & special tours by request for your organization or company.

**Levels of Membership**

- [ ] Senior/ Student Membership $10
- [ ] Individual Membership $20
- [ ] Family Membership $40
- [ ] Rotunda Membership $100
- [ ] Doric Membership $500
- [ ] Ionic Membership $1,000
- [ ] Corinthian Membership $2,500  
  (corporate 2 years, individual 3 years)
- [ ] Crown Membership $5,000  
  (corporate 3 years, individual 5 years)

I am a  [ ] New Member  [ ] Renewing Member

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