# Muttenz Descendants, Inc. Family Newsletter



WINTER 2007

## **Robert Carroll Pens New Book** "Stokes County's Old, Odd, and Other Stuff"

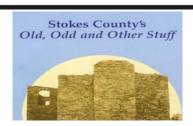
#### This is BIG.....really BIG....

Friends and the Stokes County Historical Society have helped 98-year-old Stokes County, NC Historian Robert (Bob) Carroll resurrect his old Danbury Reporter columns Stokes County's Old, Odd, and Other Stuff in a just-published paperback book of the same title. Spainhour, Grabbs, Helsabeck, Hauser, Newsom, Calloway, Fiscus, Moore, Vest, King, Kiger, Kiser, Kreeger, Winston are among the many family names featured in the articles which report first settlers, first automobiles, first citizens, and lasting memories. Photographs in

the book include the John Jacob Spainhour home relocated and restored in King's Central Park.

Television journalist, Chad Tucker, describes the book as "a priceless collection ..... that will inspire all generations to find the history and heritage in themselves."

Mr. Carroll is a member of Muttenz Descendants, Inc. Arbogast Society in recognition of his invaluable assistance with our family history projects. He has been a resident of Arbor Acres United Methodist Retirement Community in Winston-Salem since his wife's passing in 2000.



Key contact for sales of the \$20.00 book is Suzan Garner, 1240 Arbor Rd., Winston-Salem, NC Suzan may be reached by email at sgarner@arboracres.org. Suzan, a Stokes resident and an Arbor Acres staff member, and Arbor Acres residents Miriam Bumgarner, Mary Dalton and Elizabeth Lasley were among several who helped Bob adapt his columns and assemble them in an attractive book form.

Editor's Note: I have it and love it!

# Calling All "Cousins"!!! Come Visit with us for the 1st Annual Heritage Day Celebration! Saturday May 19, 2007

Muttenz Descendants, Inc. is sponsoring what we hope will be an annual recurring celebration with the fixed date being the third weekend of May. Think of it as a mini-reunion with food and fellowship and some history and family talent thrown in for good measure.

Heritage Day will be held Saturday May 19, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at King Central Park in King, NC. Lunch will be served at no charge (donations will be greatly appreciated).

"The MDI Program for Family History & Genealogy—What Are We Doing and How You Can Participate" will be a round table family discussion led by James and Stephen Spainhour.

There will also be a "Family Talent Time" showcase. So, if you sing, play an instrument, yodel, juggle, perform magic, tell stories, or just have a talent all your own, please contact Verna S Brewer and let her know if you would like to participate. Verna can be reached by email at vernabrewer@aol.com or by snail

mail at Verna S. Brewer PO Box 2255 King, NC 27021

For those of you traveling from a significant distance, there are many local historic and just plain fun things to see and do within a short distance of our meeting place. The last issue of the newsletter contained a center section with just a few "hot picks" of the entertainment available nearby. If you don't have a copy of the last newsletter you can go online at www. muttenzdescendants.org for a copy.

Saturday will be the only "structured events" day. The rest of the time is "explore on your own" time. So, set aside some vacation time and come visit. Use the handy reply form on the back cover to let us know you're planning to come.

See ya then!

## Muttenz Descendants, Inc. and the "Spainhour Family" Lose a Sweetheart Mary McCormick Spainhour



Mary McCormick Spainhour, 68 of Aiken, SC died Tuesday August 29, 2006 at Carriage Hills Life Center in Aiken. A daughter of the late Robert B McCormick, Sr. and Ethel Houser McCormick she was born in Charleston, WV and moved to Aiken, SC in 1981. Mary was an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is survived by her husband, Charlie Spainhour of Aiken, SC a son, C. J. Spainhour of Hoover, AL a daughter, Debbie Pereira of North Stonington, CT and four grandchildren; Jonathan Andrew Heller, Michael Alan Heller. Bradlev Joseph Spainhour and Kristina Marie Spainhour. She was interred at Cunningham Memorial Park in St. Albans, WV.

Muttenz Descendants, Inc and the "Spainhour Family" lost a staunch supporter with the death of Mary Spainhour. It was Mary that encouraged and helped Charlie to research his Indiana ancestry and connect his Spainhour line back to John Jacob Spainhour. A handwritten family tree found after the death of Charlie's mother was just enough kindling PAGE 2 to spark the fires MARCH

of research. It was Mary's tireless research efforts that reunited the Indiana branch of Spainhours with the other branches.

Upon learning of the dilapidated John Jacob Spainhour cabin and the impending danger of it being torn down, Mary and Charlie launched a campaign to try and find a home for the cabin with hopes of restoring it for future generations to enjoy. Owner Winky Thomas waited patiently as Mary wrote town councils. historical societies. colleges, and the NC State Preservation office looking for interest in the project. Finally, after five years of diligent work, the City of King and Muttenz Descendants, Inc. became interested in the cabin as a centerpiece for a new city park. And the rest.....as they say...... is history!

# The following are a few words about Mary from James Spainhour of the History Committee......

Mary McCormick Spainhour was a major contributor to the MDI Family History & Genealogy Program. She was a very experienced and researcher. careful Marv's research focused on charting the descendants of Jonathan Spainhour, son of John Jacob Spainhour and Anna Catherine Fulk, and grandson of the younger immigrant brother, Wernhardt Spänhauer, and his first wife, Verona Wister. Jonathan was one of the early migrants from North Carolina to Indiana, making Mary's research especially challenging. Through Jonathan's son John David, who was born in North Carolina just before the family's westward migration --- then through his son, David James, who lived his full life in Indiana - came Charles Martin Spainhour, who was born in Indiana, but who migrated back eastward and was married in West Virginia.

Next, through Charles Martin in West Virginia, came John Martin --- and through him, Mary's husband Charles Thomas. Anyone who has tried to trace families as they migrated from place to place will appreciate the many hours of patient effort that Mary spent to document these many family groups.

During her research, Mary discovered a reference to the baptism of twin children from Werner and his second wife. Elizabeth Lohner. This was at the St. Jacob's Church in Brodbeck's Township of York County, Pennsylvania. These twins, Johann Heinrich and Anna Elisabetha were recorded as born in Brodbeck's Township on August 5, 1762. Our previous records for these two children had them born in different years and in different places and their full names were in doubt. That they were twins born on that date was later confirmed by the Bethania Census of 1790.

At the time of her death. Mary was pursuing another challenging project --- to document the parents of a second Jonathan Spainhour, who was an early migrant to Kentucky. The existence of this second Jonathan was documented by researcher Wanda Howard of Kentucky. Mary's Jonathan was a witness to the marriage of this second Jonathan, so the two Jonathans were probably close cousins.

We suspect that this second Jonathan was a son of John Henry Spainhour and Elizabeth Dietz, but we have not yet been able to document this. Since John Henry was a son of Werner's second marriage to Elizabeth Lohner, the two Jonathan's had the same grandfather -- but different grandmothers. Does that still make them second cousins, or is it two and one-quarter cousins???

- James Spainhour

#### Remember When...

The following article is a reprint from Newsletter #11

# Spaenhauer Family Cabin Project

Charlie Spainhour, Aiken, SC

John Spainhour (Ripley, WV), Francis Spainhour (Rural Hall, NC), Catherine Canter (Pfafftown, NC) and I met recently with the City Manager and the Public Works Manager for the city of King. Together we selected a site within the new city park on which we will reconstruct the Johann Jacob Spaenhauer Cabin. The cabin will be used to illustrate frontier life in that area of North Carolina during the late 1700's and early 1800's. The City of King will perform a survey of the cabin plot, which will be about 80 x 100 feet. The location is at the edge of a woods and near the parking lot.

There is some legal paperwork which must be completed. After this is done, the project must go through formal approval by the Recreational Committee of King, and then by the full City Council. The target for completing this phase is at the City Council meeting in August, 1997.

In the last issue of the Newsletter, you will remember

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that we were seeking permission from Bonnie Speas to strip the weather boarding from the logs of the Hobart & Martha Spainhour home place to examine the logs in order to determine how many of them will be suitable to replace those logs that were not salvageable from Johann's cabin.

After receiving permission, John and I removed some of the exterior siding to examine and measure the logs. second floor of this cabin is of a different construction, but its contains floor logs essentially like those from Johann's cabin, and because of their protection by the siding, they appear to be quite suitable for our planned use.

Several work sessions will be scheduled during the period of July through October. Our plan is to salvage materials from the Speas cabin which will be useful in rebuilding Johann's cabin, to prepare the new site for Johann's cabin, to move all the materials to the site, and to treat the materials for insects.

We will not take down the Speas cabin until we are ready to move the logs to the new site, but there is much work to be done in preparation for this. The new site must be cleared of brush and a few trees must be removed. We plan to move all the logs and other materials to the new site, and to treat (at the site) all the materials for insects at one time.

Our next work session will be in July. At that time, we plan to take up some flooring from the Speas cabin for use in rebuilding Johann's cabin.

\*\*Reprinted from Newsletter #11\*\*

## New Additions to Military Heroes List

#### Edwin S Spainhour WWII

Contributed by his son Stephen E Spainhour

#### William S Spainhour Vietnam

Contributed by his brother Stephen E Spainhour

#### Sam Anthony Portaro WWII

Contributed by Sam Portaro, Sr.

#### Daniel Alan Portaro Vietnam

Contributed by Sam Portaro, Sr.

Editor's Note: Effective with this issue the complete military listing will only appear in the Spring and Fall issues of the newsletter in honor of Memorial Day and Veteran's Day.



Just a Reminder... Freedom Isn't Free

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# A Family Treasure

# The Civil War Diary of Rufus Spainhour (cont'd) contributed by his great-grandson Al Spainhour

December 12, 1862

Our regiment marched near all night and on the morning of the 13th went into a line of battle and were exposed to shelling all day having several wounded. Vannoy had one eye shot out. This was a bright day for the South. This was a real victory but we had to mourn the loss of many officers and men. General Cobb of Georgia fell while gallantly leading his men to victory. Fredericksburg was almost demolished by shells and fire. Soon afterwards we went into camp near there an near the close of the month we went on piquet and remained till the close of the year.

#### January the 1st 1863

Another year has passed and no peace yet; the monster, war, seems to be still active in his preparations to destroy more human beings before he allows peace to take his place, he seems to be strengthening every nerve, and doing all he can to promote his cause, but I hope he may be disappointed and sweet peace reign in his stead. On New Year's morning our regiment came off piquet and moved camp a half mile and all the forces commenced fortifying Fredericksburg which was well done. During this time a good many of our forces were sent to N.C. About the 24th we were transferred to Taliferro's Brian Jackson's division. We then moved down the river seven miles.

#### February

This month has been one of perfect quietude, the sham fights with snow, which were quite severe and interesting. During PAGE 4 the month we have had

some revival interest. Our Chaplain is Rev. W. Gaultney. He is a fine little man. I am tenting with him this winter. We are camped near what is called Shaker's Neck. The month closed quite cold and wet.

#### March 1863

This has been another month of snow, rain, and wind in Fredericks-burg. Lee whipped the Yankees on the upper Rappahannock. The wealth of our troops is good and religious interest very high.

#### April 1863

On the 5th inst (?) a heavy snow fell. Religious interest still increasing. On the 18th brother William R. Spainhour joined our regiment, another came out with him but went back soon. On the 23 our regiment went to Port Royal but the Yankees gone and they returned.

#### April 29th

Our troops moved up to Fredericksburg as the Yankees were crossing.

#### Thursday the 30th

The troops remained in the line of battle all day.

#### May the 1st 1863

Today our troops moved up the river in the direction of Chancellorsville.

#### May the 2nd

The troops under General Jackson moved to the left of U. S. forces and by a flank movement struck the enemy in the flank and by night had driven miles and captured many prisoners; on the next day a

general engagement occurred which was quite a bloody affair, we lost many from our co. killed on the field to (?) VIB. J. Eller, John and Samuel Pennel, Mr. Pilkenton and several others besides Clark Whittington, and others died of their wounds and John Estes, George Johnston lost each an arm and brother Wm. Was wounded in hand and rist and lost the use of hand for life from his wounds. The Yankees were driven back across the river.

The spring is now again on hand, With sorrow in our level land, It brought a scene of human strife, And death to those blooming in life.

May had then scarcely on us smiled, One day so sweet and gently mild, Ere fields with blood were deep stained, And many brave hearts were there slain

Ah! Chancellorsville, that bloody field, Who can tell the sorrows you yield, The bloodiest scenes that earth can claim, Were there among those many slain

The noted hero of our land, Fell there among that noble band, He led them on to victory's door, But fell before he could do more

But many lived with joy to see, The Yankees as they did quickly flee, Back across the Rappahannock, For they were struck with panic

There Hooker with his legions bold, Were driven from their strongest holds, By Lee and his brave veterans true, Who's told by deeds what they can do

Though a victory this way is very sad, To see those youthful blooming lads Buried without a tear or sigh, For Mother, nor friend were not nigh

Many who fell on that sad day, Had loving friends far, far away, With whom they hoped one day to meet, And spend a life of joy so sweet But they on earth can meet no more, Though they may meet on Heaven's shore, Where they with all that blessed band, Can live with God in that blessed land

#### - Rufus

After the fight things became quiet and after remaining near the U. S. Ford a week, we moved to Hamiltons Xings (Crossings) where we spent the remainder of the month.

#### June

Early in June we moved off in the directions of the Valley in Va. After several hard days march ?? Corps landed near Winchester and before Melroy who was in command of a Yankee force here, he was surrounded and near all his forces captured, he escaped with a few men. We got everything he had, Capt. John ??ller of our Regiment was killed.

We immediately moved forward entering Maryland at Shepherdstown and camped one night on the Sharpsburg battlefield. We moved throughout Haggerstown, we then entered Pennsylvania and passed through New Castle, Mercersburg, McConnelsburg, Chambersburg and up near Carlisle.

#### July the ?7th

On the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of this month our troops engaged the enemy at Gettysburg. The enemy were situated on a mountain rear of Gettysburg and after many attempts to drive them, our troops were compelled to desist though not till the hardest fighting I ever heard had taken place, on the day of the 3rd it was the continual roar of artillery and small arms. I suppose more than two hundred pieces of artillery were in use at the same time and slaughter was terrific on both sides. On the day of the 4th, we remained on the field all day, and at night commenced retreating but the mud was so deep that we made very little progress, but at length we landed at Williamsport and found the river too much swollen to cross, we here remained in line of battle for several days till pontoons were constructed, we then crossed and moved up the

valley and crossed the Blue Ridge without molestation.

#### August

We moved near Orange C. H. where we spent the time resting, recruiting & c. ? William came back to the regiment but was not fit for service.

#### September

We remained in camp until the 14th when brother William received his discharge from service and started home on the same evening we moved and after several days of moving we went into camp 12 miles below Orange C. H. We have considerable religious interest in the regiment.

#### October

This month was noted for its hard marches, on the 8th we left camp and marched by way of Madison C. H. to Culpepper but failing to cut off the Yankees there, we marched forward again to Warrenton where we encountered the Yankees again, but moved around and aimed to cut them off there but some failure on the part of some officer caused a mistake. We then moved back to the Rappahannock and stationed near Brandy Station.

#### Nov. the (blank)

Made some demonstrations near the Rappahannock bridge, Hays and ??kes brigades were sent over the river to meet them but the Yankees coming in such overpowering forces the two Brigs were nearly destroyed, some were killed, some drowned, and many captured. The army then moved south of the Rapidann where we remained quiet till near the close of the month when we moved to Germana ford to meet the Yankees crossing there an on the ?th fought them, Lee's Cavalry then fought them some and they returned across the river.

#### Dec the (blank) 1863

The month commenced cold and our men in a bad fit to endure it being unprotected in a line of battle. But after a few days the Yankees returned to the north side of the river and we to our former camp where we had nothing more to disturb our quietude during the month. A bloody year has just closed. Scenes, the bloodiest our country has ever witnessed, has transpired this year, it had furnished the historian with a large store of material for future story.

#### January 1864

The month of January was passed without much interest. We had some snow and very cold weather. Our piquet duty was pretty hard.

#### February

Early in the month our Brigade now under G. H. Stuart went on piquet and just as they were about to relieve the troops then on piquet, the Yankees crossed the river and attacked our troops and required considerable skirmishing before they could be driven back. We have completed a church for worship and also have a school for the instruction of those who cannot read or write and are having some interesting meetings.

#### March

The first of this month a cavalry force crossed and moved in the direction of Richmond, but were driven back with some loss. Their object was to take the city by night, the 1st,3rd NC against the 10,23 Va. Regiment, it was so stubbornly contested as almost any fight Such sham fights were in progress near all over the army. Heard that cousin Eliza Estes and John Webb are married.

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# HIP! ... HIP! ... HOORAY!!!

We asked for contributions......

#### And you didn't monkey around.....

## You're a great bunch.....



Mrs. Hoyle Lambeth - In memory of Calvin S. Spainhour (father) and John S. Spainhour (grandfather)

Betty Anne Fisher

Charlie Spainhour - In memory of Mary M. Spainhour (wife)

Stephen E. Spainhour - In memory of Edwin S. Spainhour and Dorothy H. Spainhour

David & Carolyn Spainhour

Ethel B. Spainhour - In memory of John R. Spainhour, Jr. (husband)

Harold & Jane Browder - In honor of Doris Shore Brandon (mother) and In memory of Squire and Hessie Edwards Shore (maternal grandparents)

Shirley E. Bracey

Eugene S. Spainhour, II - In memory of Bill Bason (William Spainhour Bason)

Tom & Carma Charping - In memory of John Silas & Josephine Spainhour

# Do You Remember Who...... Do You Remember Who...... Do You Remember Where..... Do you Remember How.....

.....the slap of the screen door......playing with tobacco worms......the smell of grandma's house.....burnt match sticks for eyebrow makeup......poodle skirts......car hops.....sock hops......milkman deliveries......peanuts in your Coke...... Moon Pie and RC.....Sunday morning church bells...... all day singings and dinner on the grounds......(real) banana pudding......teaberry gum......fishing with a cane pole...... digging fish worms for bait.....homemade ice cream on a Sunday afternoon......uptown on a Saturday night..... play parties......soft shoe......clogging......hand stringing tobacco......grape leaf pickles in a crock......picnic by the pond..........flour sack dresses......totin' creek water.....aunt Fannie's parlor..... Muskadine vine swing.......cooking on a wood stove...... cornbread in an iron skillet......ice cream socials......front porch swings.....

Some of these I've experienced, some I've only been told about......but at least I was told.......If you don't know......

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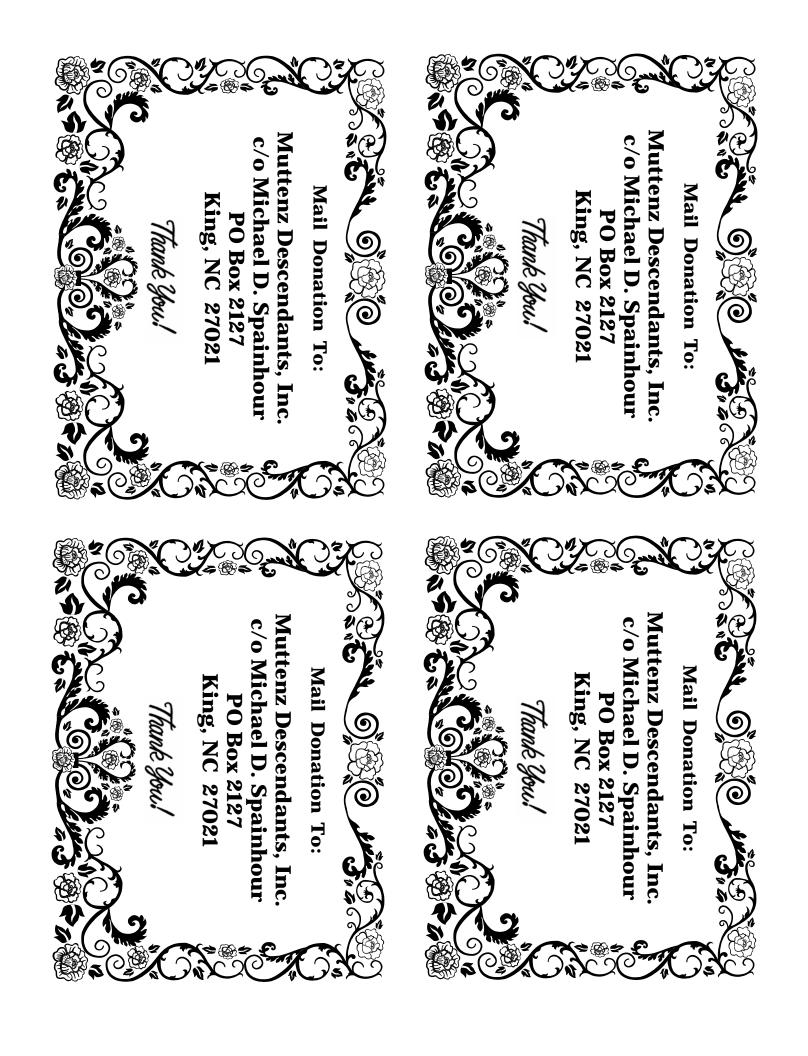
Ask!......If you do know.......Tell!
......and if you can.....send it to me!

2007



......Speaking of making your heart smile.... consider making a tax-deductible donation "In Memory of" or "In Honor Of" that someone special ..........and we will recognize you with mention in an upcoming newsletter for helping keep Muttenz Descendants, Inc. operating.







# Don't Forget the Website!

## www.muttenzdescendants.org

Don't forget to visit our website often. James has been working very hard, along with Steven, Jerry and others, to make it better than ever! There are lots of plans for new presentations and new items are being added all the time! You will need a password to enter the database portion of the site. You may receive that by e-mailing the database manager at the link on the site.

If your newsletter is late, fails to arrive, you misplace it, or just want to give somebody else a copy....and you have a computer, or can borrow a friend's, go to the website, to the "Library" section and find the section on "Newsletters"...they're all there from September, 1992! Just print out a copy!

While you're there, take a look around......Do You Have Something to Add?

The info well has dried up

The editor has nothing to edit

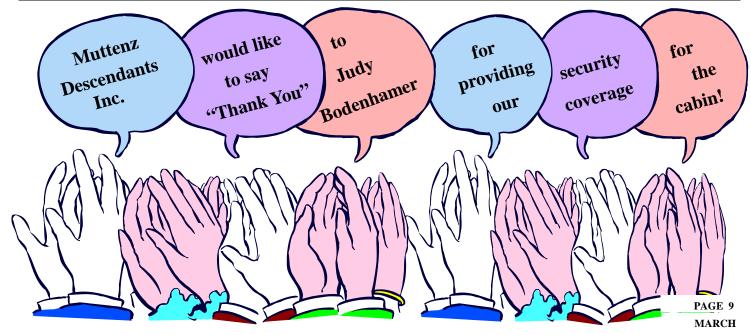
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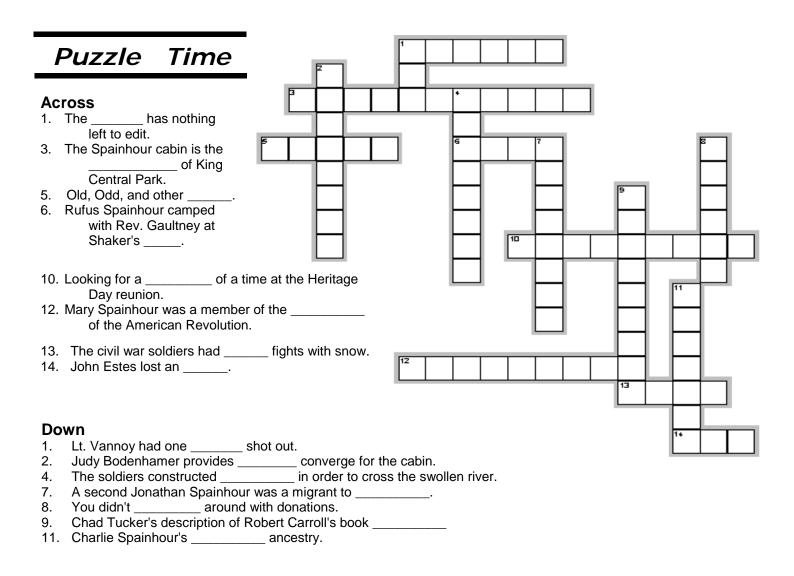
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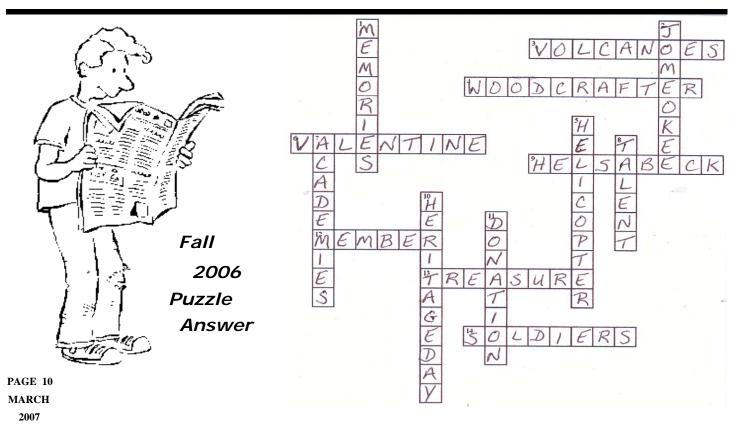
The info well has dried up

The editor has nothing to edit

We need your input. Please help by sending announcements: wedding, birth, anniversary, etc. We'd love to print them. OK......I need vacation stories for the next newsletter Tell us where you went last summer or where you're planning to go this summer! Send it in! -your editor newsomes@alltel.net







# **Board Members/Officers/Contacts**

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# In Memory of Our Family & Friends

Bason, William "Bill" Spainhour, Bill Bason, 75, of San Fran-

cisco, passed away on Monday, January 9, 2006 as a result of emphysema and complications. Born December 2, 1930 in North Wilkesboro, NC he was the son of William Jennings Bason and Ruby Snydor Spainhour Bason. Bill was great-grandson the of Rufus Spainhour, founder of the Spainhour Department Store of North Wilkesboro. Bill was a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC and afterward lived for twenty-five years in Manhattan, along with his partner, Joseph Muir. For over twenty years he was advocacy director patient Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York City. From 1996 to his death he resided in San Francisco where he volunteered at UCSF, helped many people in the recovery community, and was a devotee theatre, the SF Symphony, and the SF Ballet. A remembrance of his life was held Saturday,

January 28, 2006 at St. Francis Lutheran Church in San Francisco. A marker for Bill is located beside his parents in the Greenewood Cemetery in North Wilkesboro, NC. Survivors include cousins Eugene Spainhour of Hickory, NC; Amanda and Alfred Spainhour of Hickory, NC; Stephen Wagner of Philadelphia, PA; Clark Bason of Palm Springs, CA; Jim Spainhour of Hendersonville, NC; John Spainhour of Shepherdsville, KY: David Spainhour of Gastonia, NC; and his aunt Mozelle Spainhour of Blowing Rock, NC.

#### **Spainhour,** Robert Howard

NORFOLK - Robert Howard Spainhour, 60, passed away Dec. 18, 2006. He was a retired assistant at the law firm of McGuire Woods LLP. Born in Norfolk, he was the son of Nancy Williamson Spainhour and T. Howard Spainhour. Robert was a graduate of Maury High School, a member of Larchmont United Methodist Church, the

presiding president of the local chapter of the Isaac Walton League and of Norfolk County Rifle Range Inc. He very much enjoyed Civil War reenactment exercises and went to many area schools to give programs on the Civil War. Left to cherish his memory are his beloved parents and a number of aunts and uncles.

A graveside funeral was conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday December 21st in Forest Lawn Cemetery by the Rev. Dr. William D. Parrish. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions were made to The Norfolk SPCA. 916 Ballentine Blvd., Norfolk, VA 23504. Cox Funeral Home handled arrangements.

To have obituaries printed in the next newsletter please email to:

newsomes@alltel.net

Or mail to:

Lisa Newsome PO Box 1051 King, NC 27021

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# MUTTENZ DESCENDANTS, INC.

1951 Tobaccoville Road, Rural Hall, NC 27045

A not-for-profit tax-exempt corporation portraying and honoring the frontier heritage of Muttenz descendants and their neighbors.

Distribution Manager:

e-mail: ellenjh@aol.com

**Return Address** 

5625 Reynolda Road Winston-Salem, NC 27106





# 1st Annual Heritage Day Celebration!

If you plan to attend the mini reunion Saturday May 19, 2007 from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

at King Central Park in King, NC Please let us know by choosing one below:

By Email: vernabrewer@aol.com

By Phone: 336-985-0286 or 336-287-8414

Clip & Mail: Verna Brewer PO Box 2255 King, NC 27021

Please provide the following: Number Attending

**Names** 

**Addresses** 

**Phone Numbers** 



Looking forward to a humdinger of a time! Hope to see everyone there!