



## HISTORIC DOWNTOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION New Bern



Sunrise at the end of New Street  
(Laura Overman photo)

### HDRA NOTES

March 2022

#### NOTES from the Top

Your HDRA board is off and running. We're excited to be celebrating HDRA's 25th anniversary this year, and even more excited that, so far, we can do it without masks. That alone calls for a toast.

The current board:

Joe Kull - President  
Dottie Corning - Vice President/Social Co-Chair  
Mary Ringwalt - Secretary  
Rusty Ingram - Treasurer  
Randy Straight - Community/Government Outreach Chair  
Dexter Tatum - Membership Co-Chair  
Kelley Hudgins - Social Co-Chair  
Lynn Hand - Membership Co-Chair  
John Phaup - Newsletter Editor

Hudgins and Ringwalt are new members. Please join us in extending a welcome to them.

#### What's planned for 2022?

We will hold a membership meeting March 28 at the Library on Johnson Street, followed by meetings on April 28, and May 2. The format will be 5:30 - 6:00 pm, refreshments, with business and speakers following. The meeting will end by 7:30 pm.

Lined up for the March 28 meeting are two persons close to the city's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Kessler Hotel Group. They are city attorney Scott Davis and Swiss Bear Director Lynne Harakal.

Mayoral candidates and Ward 1 candidates are recruited for the subsequent meetings.

Later in the year - another street picnic in the fall and a more formal social event in November.

Thanks to former board members Mike Ruff, Betsy Clagett, and Rick Krauss for keeping HDRA alive through some very difficult times. The inability to meet in person could have been the death knell for HDRA. Betsy, Rick and Mike managed to keep the wheels on, and we are grateful to be rolling.

A toast to them as well.



Joe Kull  
HDRA President

#### In This Issue

- Joe Kull is the new HDRA president. Read his comments in *Notes from the Top*.
- Newcomers are Krista and David Callender - 202 Johnson Street.
- Dan and Laurie Eudy represent the fifth generation of one family to own the Dawson-Clarke house on East Front Street.
- Downtown Dogs are, with one exception, from Metcalf Street.
- An appearance by city manager Foster Hughes is noted.
- The Spring Heritage Homes Tour is coming.
- A King Solomon Lodge fundraiser brought elements of the renovation together.
- Photos of In the Snow
- Letter Rip *To Watch or Not* poses the question, do we need a neighborhood watch? (Opinion is that of the editor.)

NOTES publishes next in June. Submit story ideas and announcements to [pbsjphaup@aim.com](mailto:pbsjphaup@aim.com).

## Newcomers: In Search of Appropriate

David and Krista Callender came to New Bern from the sprawling metropolis of Kansas City, Kansas, but their roots are very much in the sandy loam and clay of North Carolina.

Both grew up in Cary, a suburb of Raleigh. IBM brought David's parents to Research Triangle Park from Endicott, NY. Krista's father became a faculty member at North Carolina State University in Raleigh after meeting her mother, a native of the central Piedmont area of NC.

The two descendants of academia and high tech both evolved into lovers of technology. And both work in one of New Bern's better examples of four-square architecture, the Harry Marks House, 202 Johnson Street, designed by H.W. Simpson (1912).

I mean "work in" literally. Both have home offices on the second floor; Krista's at the front in a large open hall and David's in a rear bedroom.

Do they dress for work and walk into their offices as if meeting co-workers? Only up to the point of appearing business-like on Zoom, according to Krista.

She manages projects for Lexical Intelligence, a provider of software and services. David designs networks for hospital monitors for an affiliate of General Electric. Do they blend shop talk with pillow talk? I didn't ask that question—probably not appropriate.

David's parents retired to a home in Fairfield Harbour which provided incentive for David and Krista to move east. And that move in 2021 came after their wedding in Christ Church, New Bern, in 2006, in a Scottish ceremony done in homage to David's ancestry. (Let it be known that the Presbyterian Church is the Church of Scotland.)

They met in high school in Cary but only dated once. A 15-year correspondence followed while Krista attended NC State, and David went to an aeronautical school in Florida before transferring to East Carolina University. One of his early heroes was the helicopter pilot in the TV show *Magnum P.I.*

The Great Plains SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) is Krista's favorite nonprofit. They rescued Zeus, a large breed known as Great Pyrenees, at this nonprofit.

Do they relish their Scottish heritage? Very much so, and in that spirit I alluded to a tale about a Scot in kilts, too much single malt, two lovely lassies, and a blue ribbon. Totally, inappropriate I would only - with too much single malt myself - relate this story.



Krista, David and Zeus Callender at their front door.



David and Krista Callender in the front parlor of 202 Johnson Street

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Kansas City's loss is New Bern's gain. Welcome David and Krista if you see them on one of their regular walks with Zeus. I think you will enjoy a chat; but don't - as David will tell you - get too close to Zeus too fast.

## Renovation - Five Generations and Counting; Or, A Tale of Two Women



The Dawson-Clarke house from the street

Dan and Laurie Eudy are the current owners of the Dawson-Clarke House, 519 East Front Street, built around 1808. They represent the fifth generation of the descendants of Mary Bayard Devereux Clarke, 1827 - 1886, to own the house.

What intrigues me is that fact - one house staying in one family for over a century and a half since the Clarke family purchased it in 1870.

From its similarity to New Orleans structures, Dawson-Clarke is called the Louisiana House. From its association with a photographer who lived in it, Clarke's granddaughter, it is called the Bayard Wootten House. Wootten lived 1875 to 1959.

Dan Eudy's grandmother lived in the house and he often visited. At the moment, the Eudys live in Morehead City. He is a retired pharmacist who operated a pharmacy in Kinston. He and Laurie met in Morehead, where she



Bayard Wootten photo courtesy Dan Eudy (circa 1910)

designs and sells custom jewelry through her shop.

This is a generational story about two of Eudy's ancestors, the women, Mary Clarke and Bayard Wootten.

The first, Mary Bayard Devereux Clarke, was born to wealthy plantation owners in the antebellum South. She and her family bought the Dawson house after the Civil War when her family fortunes were in shambles. Prior to the war, and especially during, she became a writer and diarist in the manner of Mary Chesnut.

Bayard Wootten (pronounced By) is a self-taught photographer who practiced a photographic art form popular in the early twentieth century called pictorialism. Pictorialism attempted to make photographs look as much as possible as hand-painted portraits. The photo at left captures a moment in time in the spirit of pictorialism.



Laurie and Dan Eudy stand under a portrait (circa 1850) of Mary Clarke



Photo of Wootten pictorialism landscape

Both women achieved distinction in eras when women rarely worked outside the house.

Mary Clarke began writing in the 1840s with articles which were published in journals around the country. When her husband, a Confederate officer, was gone during the war, she became a main support of her family.

Her letters and a biography of her are published in Mary M. Barden, co-editor, *Live Your Own Life: the Family Papers of Mary Bayard Clarke, 1854 - 1886*, 2003. Barden, like Eudy, is a descendent of Clarke.

Bayard Wootten grew up in the house and was 11 when Clarke died. One of Wootten's relatives was a photographer who encouraged her young interest in the field. She maintained a studio in Chapel Hill and New Bern, among several she operated in different places from the early 1920s until the late 1940s.

Among her achievements:

- She photographed people and places regionally in Eastern NC, the NC mountains and the SC Low Country which document the Great Depression and a vanishing way of life

# Downtown Dogs and the Company They Keep

HDRA residents are often known to other residents by the dogs they are seen walking. The following collection is offered to credit the source of this community - the dogs themselves.



Cooper, a Lab, Shepherd mix,  
with Crystal Scillitani



Tori, an English Springer Spaniel,  
with Christian and George Evans



Bella, a proud Yorkie-Poo, with  
Cathy Alix and Joe Kull



Mahalo, a goldendoodle, with  
Harry and Kathleen Gormley



Chloe, a Bassett/Terrier mix,  
with Karen and Dave O'Connell

Photos by John Phaup

## NEW BERN IN THE SNOW OF '22

Photos by Joel and Nancy Curé



### A Brick for King Solomon

Bricks, donated by an interested party, were cleaned and sold recently to benefit the ongoing renovation of the King Solomon Lodge on Howard Street.

In the adjoining photo, downtown residents who joined in the effort include (pictured) Mo Howland, liaison from the New Bern Preservation Foundation, and (not pictured) Ben Parrish, Ron Saulnier, Satterfield Phaup, and John Phaup.

Fred Smith, Willie Perry (pictured), both Past Masters of the Lodge, joined the effort, as did Lodge members (not pictured) Frank Scott and Morris Harris.

Bill Green is treasurer of the New Bern Preservation Foundation; Stanley Trice is grant-writer for the project. Newsom Williams and Ben Parrish on behalf of Preservation suggested a joint undertaking with the Lodge when the joint renovation first organized. Purcell, active with Habitat for Humanity of Craven County, is on the renovation committee.

Plans are for more cleaning days. This event cleared \$590 in a sale to Carolina Foundation Repairs.



L-R, front: Bill Green, Stanley Trice  
Second row: Newsom Williams, Fred Smith, Willie Perry, Mo Howland  
Rear: Lee Purcell

Photo by John Phaup



HISTORIC DISTRICT RESIDENTS  
ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Kull, President  
Dottie Corning, Vice President  
Rusty Ingram, Treasurer  
Mary Ringwalt, Secretary

Peggy Broadway  
Appearance Committee

Lynn Hand  
Membership Committee, Co-chair

Kelley Hudgins  
Social Committee Co-Chair

John Phaup  
Newsletter Editor

Randy Straight  
Community/Government Outreach  
Committee

Dexter Tatum  
Membership Committee Co-chair

WEBSITE  
<https://www.newbern-hdra.com>

To become a member,  
go to our website and click on the  
Become A Member link.

Please submit a  
completed application form for  
new membership.

MAILING ADDRESS  
P.O. Box 442  
New Bern, NC 28563

### HDRA General Meeting

HDRA held its general Membership Meeting on January 10 in First Presbyterian Education Building. Our guest speaker was New Bern's recently appointed city manager, Foster Hughes.



L-R Dottie Corning (HDRA vice president), Foster Hughes, and Mike Ruff (president)



Hughes and his HDRA audience

Photos by Laura Overman



### HDRA Google Groups

If you are a HDRA member interested in sending a notice to our general membership, please send your message to a board member. Board members review announcements for appropriateness and then send them to our general membership. Kindly do not reply to Google Groups announcements as these are not intended as a two-way conversation, only as a means to share the announcement.

# Heritage Homes Tour Returns

April 8 - April 9

As New Bern Historical Society's Executive Director, Mickey Miller explains, "This is not your mother's homes tour. You can expect a diverse lineup of unique houses in the downtown historic district, ranging from 19th century traditional dwellings to creative adaptive reuse structures and exciting new infill homes. These aren't museum properties; they're livable family homes with



On the tour, as docents, will be nearly 40 downtown residents at the Margaret and Charles Hix House (above) circa 2018, 600 Edgerton Drive.

rich stories and architecture that illustrate New Bern's amazing history."

In addition to remarkable homes, working artists, performing musicians, and food trucks will be on hand. Tickets, good for both days, are available at [www.NewBernHistorical.org/tickets](http://www.NewBernHistorical.org/tickets), or by calling 252-638-8558, or by visiting the New Bern Historical Society at 511 Broad St. in New Bern.



## Renovation *(continued)*

- She photographed Thomas Wolfe, once a famous author, when he was a student at UNC-Chapel Hill
- She took aerial photos, seated on the wing of a Wright Flyer before the First World War
- She designed the first logo for Pepsi-Cola for its originator, Caleb Bradham, who lived a short distance away.

Dan Eudy found many of the Wootten's photographic glass plates when he inherited the house. His father subsequently donated them to UNC. Dan Eudy worked closely with Jerry W. Cotten at UNC who published *Light and Air: the Photography of Bayard Wootten*, 1998, which documents her life and work.

The preservation of Dawson-Clarke and its significance, thanks to Dan and Laurie Eudy, continues into the future.



Dan and Laurie Eudy in the parlor of the Dawson-Clarke House

## Letter RIP: To Watch Or Not

I am a fan of Kate Rosenstrauch.

Kate was president of HDRA a few years ago, and at a meeting over which she presided, the city manager at the time, Mark Stephens, attended and suggested a Crime Watch Patrol for the downtown, commonly referred to as a Neighborhood Watch. Neighborhood Watch, as I think most readers know, is a more-or-less organized patrol of city streets by resident volunteers who call the police if he or she sees anything suspicious.

After Stephens made his pitch, Kate asked for a show of hands from the 50 people in attendance. How many had been victims of crime in the past year?

Two hands went up, if memory serves.

Given the recent spate of thefts from cars, yards, and houses, should HDRA consider now organizing a Neighborhood Watch?

A parallel, remote from downtown - Riverside tried a Neighborhood Watch, which, after an initial, enthusiastic, burst, sputtered out.

Would police like to have a volunteer watchdog unit in place downtown? I think so, if it can be kept in place.

In my experience the police would support some common sense practices being put into place - such as locking cars at night, and recording serial numbers of appliances, devices, gadgets, that could be stolen.

The police are here to serve. But the theft of a laptop computer without the victim being able to furnish a serial number is virtually impossible to solve - and likely will go unreported in the crime statistics police keep.

Crime in the downtown is regrettable. Margaret and I have lost two car batteries, a spare tire, a telephone, a computer printer, tools and cash, in the place we call home since we moved here decades ago. Not to mention a rocking chair taken off our front porch which Margaret was given when our first baby was born. Margaret used it to nurse the child and lull her to sleep.

Have we been crime victims in the past year? No.

Would we encourage Neighborhood Watch being formed downtown? Only if it can be kept in place.

~ John Phaup

