



RESTORATION CONTINUES ON BELLEMONTTE WHILE COLLEGE RAISES FUNDS

College working on raising funds for Bellefonte work

By DELL LEWIS

The placement and subsequent restoration of Bellefonte is continuing, while the college and its Board of Trustees work on fund-raising activities for the house.

When asked about the fund raising efforts necessary for such a project, Mrs. Virginia Wooten, Project Director said, "Total fund raising efforts for Bellefonte may or may not fall completely under the Development office." Although we have not hired a Director of Development," she said, "the Trustees will decide how this will fall into the college plan."

The original estimated cost of the project was \$300,000. "This figure was given before the basement was included," said Wooten. "I can say more (about costs) after the October 13 Board of Trustees meeting," she added.

"There have been several proposals submitted to outside sources," said Wooten. "The money is not coming from the operating resources," she quickly stated. "There are some people who will be interested in this historic restoration project that may not support the other

needs of the college," Wooten stated.

Enthusiastically, Wooten said, "The placement of the house on its new foundation should take place within the next few weeks, weather permitting." This will be a significant step towards the completion of Phase I of the project which also includes: a new roof; replacement and repair of windows and exterior doors; exterior painting; and portico restoration. "It is imperative to the board that the outside be painted and repaired to protect the dignity of the house," she said.

The Bellefonte project is an adaptive academic restoration. This simply means that while the house is being restored to its original grandeur, its proposed function will be that of office space and meeting rooms as opposed to a private home. Wooten said, "(That while) cost will most definitely be a factor in accepting bids from the various individuals and firms involved in the restoration, craftsmanship will also be responsible for determining who gets the job."

"Experts from the North Carolina Historic Preservation Foundation have visited (Bellefonte) several times and have approved that sight as

the best location for the house," said Wooten. The house was placed at the entrance of the campus purposefully and will face the south just as it did originally. The house will serve as a landmark for the college and the community.

The Nu Gamma Phi fraternity has chosen Bellefonte as one of their community service projects, becoming the first student organization to take an active part in the restoration. They have agreed to scrape the paint on the portico in order to prepare it for the craftsmen.

The project coordinator, Chris Wilson, has had experience with such projects in the past. He is the owner and restorer of the Old Town Plantation, Edgecombe County's oldest structure. Other members of the Bellefonte Steering Committee are the following: Elizabeth Pearsall, Honorary Chariman; Samuel Johnson, of Poyner and Spruill — Chairman; Arthur Edmondson, of Planters Bank in Tarboro; Nancy Holderness, of Tarboro; Claude Mayo, Trustee of the college; Richard Whiting, of the Evening Telegram; Dorothy Wilkinson of Rocky Mount; and Karen Calloway, of the Rocky Mount Junior Guild.

Americans seek more education than ever before

There are more Americans walking around with high school diplomas and college degrees than ever before, the U.S. Census Bureau reported last week.

It means the nation believes education is an ever more important part of adulthood, observers said.

"The entire post-Second World War era has been characterized by an expansion of educational opportunities and structures in the country," Census Bureau demographer Robert Kominski noted.

Consequently, as of March 1987, Kominski reported, more than 75 percent of people aged 25 and older had completed high school, and nearly 20 percent had finished at least four years of college.

By comparison, in 1940 only 25 percent of Americans aged 25 and older had completed high school, and five percent had college degrees.

"In the 1960s the civil rights movement added another level of opportunity. And the expansion of college grant and aid programs in the '60s and '70s allowed this to continue," Kominski said.

By 1987, males were slightly more likely to have finished high school than females, 76 percent to 75 percent.

Kominski pointed out that women led the high school graduate category as recently as the 1970s, and attributed the change to an increasing number of black men pursuing their educations.

In 1971, the last time more women than men graduated from high school, young black women aged 25 to 29 led young black men 61 percent to 54 percent in high school graduates.

Last year, 85 percent of young black men and 82 percent of young black women finished high school.

Asians are the most educated racial group, Kominski said. Almost 79 percent finished high school and 33 percent graduated from college. Seventy-seven percent of whites graduated from high school and 21 percent finished college.

Sixty-three percent of blacks finished high school and 11 percent received college degrees, while 51 percent of Hispanics received high school diplomas and 9 percent earned college degrees.

The West has the highest educational levels, with 80.6 percent high school graduates and 22.8 percent with college degrees.

The least educated region is the South, Kominski found, with 71 percent of its citizens holding high

school diplomas and 18 percent college degrees.

Although Americans have more education than their ancestors, Kominski says we're "not necessarily" smarter. "We all like to think that we were raised in the generation which is the best and the brightest."

NEW Arts puts stress on variety

(Continued from Page 1)

at First United Methodist Church.

Jazz pianist Marian McPartland will perform in Everett Gymnasium at North Carolina Wesleyan College on Friday, Jan. 20, 1989. The English-born musician is a recording artist with the reputation as one of the most important figures in modern jazz. Ms. McPartland is a regular guest at the major jazz festivals and has appeared on a number of PBS television specials, as well as on Charles Kuralt's "Sunday Morning" on CBS. She was a recipient of the Duke Ellington Fellowship Medal from Yale University, and her composition *Ambiance* was nominated for a Grammy. Some of McPartland's other works have been recorded by artists such as Peggy Lee, Tony Bennett and Ray Anthony.

The NEW Arts Series' grand finale performance will feature Ralph Votapek, gold medal winner of the first Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Votapek is a classical pianist who is a regular on National Public Radio networks and on PBS-TV. He has appeared with hundreds of orchestras throughout the world, including the Boston Symphony Pops Orchestra and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and he has recorded on the RCA, Cambridge, Time-Life and Concert-Discs labels. Votapek's talent has been enjoyed throughout Europe and the Americas. Ralph Votapek will be sharing his musical gift with Rocky Mount audiences on Thursday, March 16, 1989, at First United Methodist Church.

Discover something new this Fall by attending exciting NEW performances. Season tickets for the NEW Arts Series are \$20 each and are available by calling the Office of Development at North Carolina Wesleyan College (977-7171, ext. 223). Individual performance tickets may be purchased at the door for \$10 each.