

Christmas

Cont'd. from one

illuminated with candles, of the baby Jesus and Virgin Mary, the Bethlehem manager and the shepherds. Below the illuminations the word Children was written.

Though decorated trees appeared in Europe during the 17th century and in England and America around 1820, they probably did not appear in Salem until 1840 or later.

Occurring about 8:00 that same night, Christmas Eve, was the watch service and Lovefeast. The service included the reading of the

story of the Birth of Christ and the singing of Christmas carols and hymns. The music came from the large Hymn Book which contained over 2,000 hymns dating from the early Latin church to the contemporary Moravian church. This service would last until midnight.

At an appointed time during the service, while the choir sang anthems, the Lovefeast was served. Usually the food offered was simple and consisted of a lightly sweetened bun and

coffee served in mugs with cream and sugar already stirred in. When everyone was served a blessing was said and the minister and congregation ate together.

Christmas Day, December 25, at dawn the birthday of the Savior was announced instrumentally, with the sound of horns filling the air. Then at 9 a.m. a Liturgical service for the confirmed members of the church was given with a sermon on the text of the day. Preaching services occurred next at 10 a.m. This service

was usually held in German and English for outside visitors. That afternoon prayer services were held for individual choirs. Around evening time a service for the whole congregation was held. This included choir music and the Christmas sermon.

On Christmas Day the church was decorated with a few precious figures which were set up along with illuminations of scenes of Christ's birth and beautifully written lines of scriptures. It has been concluded that, in

Wachovia, this was the first "putz" (from the German word putzen which originally meant to decorate and was usually applied to the decorating churches).

With the coming of the Christmas season, Old Salem, Inc. has been busy decorating the restored area and planning seasonal activities depicting the old time Moravian Christmas. It will be fun to imagine ourselves back in the 18th century as we walk through decorative Old Salem and eagerly await the Holidays.

Candle Tea Emphasizes Christmas Spirit

-Kimberly King-

The Moravian Candle Tea ceremony began this past Wednesday evening. The Candle Tea has been a tradition at the Home Moravian Church since 1929. This ceremony takes place each year in the Brother's House on South Main Street (across from Salem Square). In earlier Moravian history, the Brother's House was a workshop and apprenticeship house for the single men in the community. Here they

learned their trades as well as their moral and spiritual disciplines.

The first part of the ceremony is held in the Old Chapel, where Christmas carols are sung, accompanied by a classic David Tannenburgh organ of pewter and wood. Downstairs, one is exposed to the art of candle-making. The ingredients of these candles, beeswax and tallow, are poured into pewter molds and left to set firm on their own. The red

crepe paper ruff on the bottom is an added bit of Christmas decoration and spirit. Beside the old dining room where these candles are made is the Old Brother's Kitchen, where German sugarcake and the traditional Lovefeast coffee is served during the ceremony.

In the cellar is the "putz" a word derived from the German verb putzen, "to place, to decorate". When the Moravians came to the New

World, they brought with them years and years of traditions. One of these traditions was the putz-building at Christmas-time. The first scene is an accurately scaled reproduction of Old Salem as it was in 1860. The second scene is that of the Nativity, which shows the countryside and town of Bethlehem as it was the night of Christ's birth. Here a woman dressed in the style of Old Salem recites the Christmas Story. Both scenes

are built in the old meat cellar of the house and involve antique hand-carved wooden figurines.

The Moravian tradition is a preparation for their celebration of Advent. It is an inspirational time of fellowship. It attempts to link the past with the present through the various stages of the candle-making, the putz, and the sugarcake and coffee. The Candle Tea emphasizes the timelessness of the Christmas spirit.

N.C. Composers' Symposium Scheduled for February

The annual North Carolina Composers' Symposium will take place for the fourth time at Salem College in the Fine Arts Center the weekend of February twenty-third, 1979.

North Carolina School of the Arts.

Composers and their composition students from universities and colleges throughout the state will come together in order to hear each others works, to discuss their music and to talk over various aspects of their craft. The following events are scheduled:

Friday evening, February 23rd: Concert of works by North Carolina Composers, 8:15, Shirley Recital Hall.

Saturday morning and afternoon, February 24th: Student readings, discussion and coffee, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 to 4:30 p.m., Fine Arts Center.

Saturday evening, February 24th: Concert of works by North Carolina Composers, 8:15, Shirley Recital Hall.

All events are free and open to the public.

The idea for such a Symposium was initiated by Ann Listokin, composer-pianist of Salem's Music Department, who with the help of Margaret Sandresky, Professor of Music at Salem, began the Symposium four years ago. Since 1976 Dr. Annette LeSiege, composer and Head of the Music Department at

Wake Forest University, has also been a member of the planning committee. The North Carolina School of the Arts has made many of its resources available to the Symposium throughout the past for years.

The Symposium provides a valuable mans of communication and fulfills an important need in the growth of the arts in North Carolina.

Schedule of Christmas Events

Candle Tea -- Single Brother's House - sponsored by Home Moravian Church, Women's Fellowship. Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 2, 2 p.m. - 9 p.m. Dec. 7, 8, 9, 2 p.m. - 9 p.m. Adults - \$1.00. Students - \$1.00

Christmas Eve Lovefeasts -- Home Moravian Church. December 24, 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. (children's), 5:00 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.

Salem Christmas -- sponsored by Old Salem, Inc. Dec. 12, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Reading Program Offered in January

In January a Reading Program will be offered at the Center for Special Education. It is scheduled for 3 weeks--January 8 - January 26 and will be taught from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. 5 days per week, hoping this will not interfere too much with the students' January Term experiences.

The course is a developmental reading program designed especially for

college women and Salem Academy students. It's emphasis will be diagnosing the students' reading weaknesses and sharpening reading skills. Some attention will be given to organization skills, getting the main idea, outlining and study skills.

Tuition will be \$50.00 and students will be working in small groups with individual programming geared to each student's needs.

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