

Celestial Salemites

In honor of the Halloween season *The Salemite* thought it would be fun to print a few good old Salem ghost stories. This article is a reprint of one written in 1986 by Sarah Fulcher, a former Salem student.

A man was killed in a cave-in when a group of Moravian brothers was building the Single Brothers House over a century ago. A young woman whose candle was spotted last Halloween in Sisters supposedly committed suicide by hanging herself in the attic. Soft footsteps and a shadow stalk Salem's stairs.

Does Salem College have ghosts? The White House does. In fact most historic institutions usually do have one or two apparitions hanging around.

Some of the more recent ghost encounters here at Salem date back to the 1970's, although strange things may have happened prior to then. The celestial visits have usually occurred when College and

Academy students have been on a fall or winter break. Most happened at night.

Members of the custodial staff and the security guards say they've run into these entities more often than we think. For example, Doris Hickman says that one Saturday some years ago when she and another member of the custodial staff were cleaning in Hanes they were surprised by the sound of footsteps slowly ascending the stairs. "We tiptoed up to look up at the stairs. Nobody was in there 'cept us. Those steps had nobody on 'em but we could hear the steps still climbing. But when they stopped at the top of the stairs, we saw a shadow just standin' there and lookin' at us," Hickman recalled.

Hickman has also had a daylight encounter in Sisters. "One cold morning last year, I was dustin' in Sisters when suddenly from within the same room, I heard venetian blinds flapping wildly, up and down, up and down," said Hickman.

"You know I got out of there fast to tell somebody 'cause I didn't know who could be in the dorm besides me. The truth is that nobody but me was in there and that there are no venetian blinds in Sisters House."

Mozelle Caesar has had a witty encounter. "If I goof off in the South Hall lobby, then the corner cupboard cracks over and over again until I start working again!" Caesar explained. But back in 1973, Mozelle's daughter "Dip" and another of the Salem refectory staff were headed over to the Hanes House on break. Finding the door locked they knocked on the door. No sooner had they knocked than a mysterious old lady in a long antique gown opened the door!

Around 1975, a Salem student and her parents spent one night in the Alumnae House and arose the next morning extremely upset. Apparently, both the student and her parents had heard someone scrubbing on a board all night long. The Alumnae House had been a "wash house" in the late 1700's.

Ramesses Exhibit

by Julie Stone

Ramesses the Great; A Pharaoh And His Time, the largest and most comprehensive collection of Egyptian treasures to ever visit the United States, is opening at the Mint Museum in Charlotte on October 1 and will run through January 31, 1989.

This will be its last North American appearance before it is returned to its permanent home at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo.

Ramesses is recognized as Egypt's greatest Pharaoh and builder. He directed the construction of Egypt's most famous and impressive architecture. He is well-known as Egypt's last great warrior king. He was also a noted statesman, signing one of the first recorded international peace treaties. Scholars still debate whether Ramesses was the Pharaoh of the Exodus; the plagues that led to the release of the Israelites.

Ramesses the Great was the most powerful and productive Egyptian leader of all time. His accomplishments as a statesman, builder, and warrior would go unchallenged by those who followed.

Tickets are \$7.50 for adults and are sold for a specific day and time. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-233-4050.

Salemmites Spend Summer In Mexico

by Patricia Earnhardt

While most of the students were cramming their belongings into their cars, Patricia Earnhardt and Kristie Reynolds were packing their bags for Mexico. On May 16th Patricia and Kristie flew off to an adventure beyond their wildest dreams.

There was no turning back after the wheels lifted from the run-way early Monday morning and they were off for ten days of meeting new people, learning new things, and seeing many new places. Patricia and Kristie were members of a missions

workteam which had volunteered to go to a city called Puebla and finish some construction work in a church. "The most I knew about this trip was that I was going to be painting and doing other light construction work, well much to my surprise when we walked into the church it looked like World War III had occurred." This comment from Kristie should give you some idea of what they found when they arrived at the work site. Patricia said that "in very quick Spanish the pastor informed us that we would be

tearing down what was left of the inside walls of the church and then moving the rocks into piles on the other side of the yard." Although this does not sound very difficult, it was. The walls had to be torn down with all pick-axes and one sledge hammer and all the rubble was moved to different places either piece by piece or in five gallon paint cans slung over their shoulders. After the sore backs and blisters had done their damage it was apparent that this was not the pencil pushing job of being in school. "It still amazes me

that we accomplished as much as we did, we built a new foundation for a church in just five days and with our bare hands." This statement from Patricia says it all for both girls.

The rest of their trip was spent touring parts of Mexico with their Mexican families and then there was time for a three day visit to Mexico City where they toured and learned about the Mexican culture. Patricia and Kristie both said that they would not give up their memories of Mexico for anything in the world...well maybe a glass of good water.