



STUDENTS PLACE IN SPEECH COMPETITION—Carol Lehman (right took first place in the recent Voice of Democracy Speech contest. Also winning were Hope Reese, second, and Mary Sue Cummings, third. (Photo by Carroll)



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Rocky Mount Designated As Bicentennial Community

Rocky Mount was officially designated a Bicentennial Community in ceremonies held November 25 in the gymnasium, with Lt. Governor Jim Hunt as the featured speaker.

The ceremony was highlighted by the presentation of a Bicentennial flag to Mayor Fred Turnage and the singing of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" by the Chorus, led by Larry Gupton, and accompanied by the Band, under the direction of J. C. Sykes.

Dr. Lawrence J. Wheeler, the Communities Consultant with the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, who officially presented the Bicentennial flag to Rocky Mount, said in presenting the flag, "The birth of this nation began 200 years ago with a revolution within the hearts and minds of men and women. This revolution did not end with the

defeat of the British. It still burns brightly when men and women across America rededicate themselves to the causes of freedom. We are not commemorating a revolution which was, but a revolution which is."

Mayor Turnage pointed out the significance of holding the Bicentennial ceremony at Senior High. "It is significant to share with you—the young people of Rocky Mount—because you are the future of this city," said Turnage.

Hunt noted that much hard work went into the designation of Rocky Mount as a Bicentennial Community. "The designation just didn't happen, but was the result of a lot of hard work by people in the Rocky Mount community. The people in Rocky Mount had to convince the state that people in

this area had the kind of spirit to become a Bicentennial Community."

Hunt warned that Americans today should not look at their heritage as something handed to them and said, "This nation was built on the consent of the governed. Everyone must consent and renew their commitment to the nation and the things it stands for." He added, "It will take our own personal rededication to build a greater nation."

In closing, Hunt quoted from John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Speech, in which Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country." Hunt encouraged everyone to "ask what you can do for your country sometime during this upcoming Bicentennial year."



BICENTENNIAL FLAG PRESENTED—Lieutenant Governor Jim Hunt (right) was on hand for the presentation of the flag to Rocky Mount by Dr. Lawrence J. Wheeler. Receiving it for the city was Mayor Fred Turnage. (Photo by Murray)

Lehman Wins Speech Contest

Carol Lehman's interpretation of the theme "What Our Bicentennial Means to Me" placed her in community wide competition for the Voice of Democracy scholarship program.

The National Broadcast Scriptwriting Program is designed to give high school students the opportunity to voice their opinions on a patriotic theme and to convey their thoughts via the broadcasting media to all America.

Other participants who placed are Hope Reese (2nd), and Mary Sue Cummings (3rd). Their approach to the theme was required to be positive, and they could not refer to their race or national origin as a means of identification or in any way identify themselves in the script.

The following questions were

given to them as guides for their interpretations of the theme: What meanings do the ideals on which our nation was founded—ideals that have endured 200 years—have for me, a young American? What is my understanding of the significance of our Bicentennial Heritage for our country today and tomorrow? What can I do to enhance the viability of our Bicentennial Heritage now and in the future?

The competitions are district, state, and national. Each state winner is provided with a five day trip to Washington, D. C. plus the opportunity to compete for national scholarships.

The program is sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary with the cooperation of the National and State Association of Broadcasters.

Fountain Receives Award To Peace

"I was really excited. I couldn't believe I got it." This was Susan Fountain's reaction when she was informed of winning a scholarship to Peace College. The qualifications Susan had to have were a score of over one thousand on the SAT, and a 3.0 grade average. She applied for the scholarship in October and faced five interviews in November. Two weeks later she was notified of her winning.

At Peace next year Susan plans to become a business major with emphasis on legal work.



FOUNTAIN RECEIVES AWARD—Susan Fountain has recently won a scholarship to Peace College. (Photo by Bulluck)

Playmakers Establish Here

The Carolina Dramatics Association, at the annual North Carolina Theatre Conference held in Winston-Salem, recently appointed Rocky Mount Senior High to be the host home for the Carolina Playmakers.

The association is composed of drama teachers, theatre directors, and theatre groups in schools, colleges, and communities who try to expand the scope, strengthen the support, and share the excitement of drama in North Carolina. It sponsors district and state drama festivals, contests for new plays, and awards and scholarships for talented pupils in playwriting, acting, design, and production.

The Carolina Dramatics Association is about fifty years old. Of this time, Rocky Mount Senior High has been a member of the organization for more than thirty years. Previously the association has been sponsored by the Carolina Playmakers at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Because of a set back in a new theatre building at the University of North Carolina, a temporary new location for the

offices was needed. Rocky Mount Senior High has been appointed as this new location.

Recently elected at the conference in Winston-Salem as executive secretary-treasurer, Mr. William Rawls, dramatics teacher at Senior High, commented "We are honored and very pleased to be asked to take on this assignment."



RAWLS ELECTED—Bill Rawls, drama teacher, was elected executive secretary-treasurer of the Carolina Dramatics Association. (Photo by Bulluck)