

Children Dance With Glee As Santa Claus Paces Grand Christmas Parade

By DALE GADDY
Children reflected carefree thoughts in their bright eyes. Some shouted with excitement. Some yelled to friends across the way, then darted across the street to join the facing throngs who awaited the gala parade.

A small baby, wrapped in a warm blanket, gazed with red streaked eyes which moments before had been shedding tears for no apparent reason.

Farmers and city folks, college students and high school cronies, tourists and hometown citizens, all intermingled along Boone's main street to witness the annual Christmas parade.

Christmas bells and pine roping held themselves high above the street, perhaps epitomizing the spirit of these mountain people. Lights peeped through store windows. And red and white and blue dominated store showcases.

Then in the distance the familiar whine of the town cruiser, making its way through the crowds, could be heard. Children held their breath. Parents tip-toed higher so that little Jane could see above the heads of the spectators who stood on the front row.

Moments later the strains of Christmas carols penetrated the motionless air. And the parade was on.

One by one the floats, bands, cars, and beauty queens passed by. The spectators applauded and cheered. And little girls and boys jumped up and down with excited energy.

Happiness and cheer overflowed from his high carriage, pulled by spotless reindeer. He "Ho, ho, ho'd" and waved big brawny arms, made strong by countless hours of working on toys at the North Pole, and teased out candy and gum to beaming, saucer-eyed children. Down the street he rode, the crowd pouring into the paved trail after him.

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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE WEATHER			
1961	Hi	Lo	prec. '61
Nov. 27	37	28	
Nov. 28	47	35	.05
Nov. 29	52	43	.19
Nov. 30	59	31	
Dec. 1	62	30	
Dec. 2	65	22	
Dec. 3	54	24	

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Photo by Flowers' Photo Shop.

A FEW OF THE THOUSANDS THAT LINED KING STREET DURING THE CHRISTMAS PARADE SATURDAY AFTERNOON

TWENTY-SEVEN UNITS PARTICIPATE

22,000 See Yule Parade; Shopping Season Opens

An estimated 22,000 persons lined the streets of Boone Saturday to witness the town's Second Annual Christmas Parade, according to George Flowers, parade chairman. The estimated figure is 4,000 greater than last year's crowd.

Parade marshal was Charlotte's famed cowboy star Fred Kirby of station WBTV. Kirby was accompanied by his sidekick, Poncho.

In all, there were 27 units in the parade plus four marching bands, a number of horses, and other parade specials.

Flowers stated that 17 men directed traffic prior to and after the parade, thus avoiding any sizeable traffic congestion. The State Highway Patrol provided three men, the National Guard provided five, the town police provided seven, and Appalachian State provided two officers.

"Within forty minutes after the parade the local traffic was back to normal," commented Flowers this week.

The parade, itself, began at 3:05 p. m. at the Horn in the West Drive and lasted until 4:10 p. m. when the last float passed the Water Street-King Street intersection.

The four participating bands were as follows: Appalachian High School, George Kirston, director; Newton-Conover, Landon Walker, director; Olive Hill High School (colored), Roy McCully, director; and ASTC, Charles Isley Jr., director.

Greene Buick Company provided the automobile in which Mayor Wade Brown rode. Herman Wilcox, president of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, rode in a car provided by the Winkler Motor Company. The members of the town council rode in cars from Brown and Graham and from Andrews Chevrolet.

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THE APPALACHIAN COLLEGE CHOIR

Choir To Present "Messiah"

The Appalachian State Teachers College Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Virginia Wary Linney, will present the annual Christmas music, "The Messiah," by George Frederic Handel on December 9 at 4 p. m. at the First Baptist Church in Boone.

A chorus of 50 voices will be heard with the College Symphony Orchestra directed by Dr. Nicholas Erneston.

Assisting at the organ will be Earny Hotard of the music faculty and Miss Faye Davis will accompany at the piano. Soloists for the performance will be Joanne Haigler of Rockingham, Sylvia Thompson of Pinebluff, Dorothy Reynolds of Valdese, Jane Wilson of Shelby, Clinton Parker of Hickory, Jerry Jones of Pilot Mountain, and Thomas Carlton of Lenoir.

Early Mailing At Christmas Time Is Urged

If you are hoping to make this Christmas really merry, Postmaster Ralph Beshears may be your Santa Claus.

The local postal head—formally kicking off his 1962 Shop and Mail Early campaign—noted that mailing is, for most people, one of the heaviest chores at Christmas. By making this job as simple as possible, a happier holiday is likely to result, he observed.

Virtually all Christmas mailing can be disposed of now by observing the following five suggestions, and during the Christmas rush you can relax, Mr. Beshears noted:

1. Do your shopping for your (Continued on page four, sec. C)

A half dozen show horses from China Grove and a 1925 Rolls Royce from the Blowing Rock Antique Auto Museum were spaced between other units of the parade.

Miss North Carolina Press Rock (Continued on page four, sec. C)

Solons-Elect Will Speak At Chamber Commerce Meet

Representative-elect James E. Holshouser, Jr., and Senator-elect Ira T. Johnston will be the speakers at the monthly meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce Tuesday December 11.

A report will be made on next year's celebration of the 300th anniversary of the founding of the State, and there will be a Horn in the West report, together with information on the 1963 Horn script, which has been completed by Dr. Kermit Hunter.

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TAX COLLECTOR, OTHERS NAMED

New County Officials Assume Duties Monday

Bynum Greene New Chairman Commissioners

The new officials took charge of the affairs of Watauga county Monday morning, immediately organized by appointing S. Bynum Greene, chairman of the Board of Commissioners and by naming the appointive personnel.

Mr. Robert Shores, Jr., of Blowing Rock was named tax supervisor; Mr. J. D. Cook of Boone was selected as county tax collector; Mr. O. J. Coffey of Blowing Rock, auditor and Miss Marie Cornette of Beaver

Board Chairman Says Meetings Will Be Public

Mr. S. B. Greene, elected Chairman of the new Board of County Commissioners, made the following statement Monday:

"According to custom the Board will meet the first Monday in each month in the Commissioners' room at the courthouse. The meetings of the Board are open to the public and any and all citizens are welcome at the meetings.

"Since our election many taxpayers have expressed an interest in the new real estate evaluation program. The contract for this work was made by the former Board of Commissioners of which I was a member. The work will now be pushed as rapidly as possible. Notices should be mailed early in January 1963.

"The names of men and women who will serve on the jury for the January term of Superior Court will be drawn at our meeting January 7."

Dam township, secretary to the tax supervisor.

All the new officials are Republicans, winning by landslide proportions in the November election. Following are thumbnail sketches of the elected officials, and of those who were appointed:

DALLAS CHEEK, Sheriff

Cheek was born in Ashe County February 11, 1922. For the past 16 years he has worked as an automobile salesman in Boone. Married to the former Miss Ruby Phillips of Boone, Cheek is the father of three children: Gilbert, 15, Janice, 9, and Michael, 4. The Cheeks reside at 300 Chestnut Street.

O. J. COFFEY, Auditor

Coffey, born and reared in Blowing Rock, is a 62 years old widower. His only child is Mrs. Howard Hodges of Morganton. Coffey attended Appalachian State Teachers College and from 1953-54 served as postmaster at Blowing Rock. He is currently semi-retired.

J. D. COOK, SR., Tax Collector

Cook was born in Boone on June 9, 1920. He is a graduate of Appalachian High School and served in the United States Air Force from 1942-46. His wife is the former Miss Dorothy Ollis of Valdese. The Cooks have one son, J. D. Jr., six years old. Prior to the November elections, the elder Mr. Cook was an auto parts salesman.

(Continued on page four, sec. C)



NEW OFFICIALS.—County elected and appointed officials who were sworn into office Monday of this week at the court house in Boone are, left to right, first row: J. D. Cook, Sr., tax collector; Dallas Cheek, sheriff; J. F. Greene, county commissioner; Smith Brown, jailer; and Miss Marie Cornette, secretary to the office of the tax supervisor; back row:

O. H. Foster, clerk of Superior Court; Robert Shore, Jr., tax supervisor; Stacy Eggers, Jr., county attorney; J. C. Lyons, county commissioner; Bynum Greene, county commissioner; and O. J. Coffey, auditor. Not present for the picture is James E. Holshouser, Jr., who was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives.—Staff photo.

Blowing Rock Ski Slope Due To Begin Operations Dec. 15

Construction crews are putting the finishing touches on a maze of equipment that will supply the snow for the South's newest ski resort.

The complicated equipment that will cover Blowing Rock's three ski slopes with ample snow for good skiing includes three massive compressors, more than a mile of pipe and hose, two types of whirling nozzles and a variety of related structures.

The machinery will supplement natural snow to assure the new resort of enough snow for a full December to March "ski season."

The equipment was perfected by Larchmont Engineering Co. of Lexington, Mass., a manufacturer of irrigation equipment that stumbled upon the snow making equipment by accident. Engineers found that a certain combination of air and water, sprayed in a mist, would make snow in below-freezing

temperatures. They developed the process extensively, and the firm's equipment is used at a number of ski areas over the nation.

The equipment being installed at Blowing Rock at a cost of more than \$50,000 will cover all three of the slopes with a blanket of snow more than ample for skiing, M. E. (Bill) Thalheimer, president of the lodge, said.

All but the finishing touches was complete this week, he said. The first "wet run" on the equipment is scheduled late in the week.

The equipment will be turned on while temperatures are above freezing and final adjustments made to compressors and nozzles, he said. After that it will be simply a matter of waiting for a good cold snap, and snow will be available at a flick of a switch.

The mist is produced by a (Continued on page four, sec. C)

"Barber Bill" Hodges Dies

William Masten (Barber Bill) Hodges, 72, a barber in Boone for more than forty years, and a resident of the Hodges Gap neighborhood, died Friday at Watauga Hospital, where he had been a patient for about a month. A heart attack was given as the cause of his death.

Mr. Hodges was born at Heaton, in what is now Avery county, to Thomas Hodges and Mary Trivette Hodges. He operated a barber shop at Shulls Mills during the days of the mill town boom in World War I days. He commenced his barbering career in Boone in June 1921. He had continued to work on a part-time basis until he was hospitalized.

Mr. Hodges was a member (Continued on page four, sec. C)

"Keep Christ In Christmas" Awards Given Merchants

Twenty-one business firms competed in the window decorating contest using "Keep Christ in Christmas" as the theme.

First place winner was Church's Store; second, Carolina Business Machines, Inc.; third, Carolina Pharmacy; and fourth, Mayflower Beauty Shop.

Honorable mention went to the Boone Tire and Bargain Store, Boone Flower Shop, and Hillander Insurance Co.

Judges made their decisions Friday, and ribbons were awarded the winners.

The contest was planned by the Fine Arts Department of the Worthwhile Woman's Club to promote more serious thought and observance of the spiritual

meaning of Christmas. This is the second year the club has sponsored the event.

Members of the club expressed appreciation to the merchants for their cooperation in providing window space, and their time and expense of decorating for the contest.

They also expressed appreciation to the ministers who served as judges, and to Mrs. James Council who served with them as consultant.

The judges said, in awarding ribbons to the winners, that originality and close adherence to the theme were deciding factors in their judging. "Merchants are to be commended for (Continued on page four, sec. C)

Burley Sales Total More Than 1 1/2 Million Lbs.

More than a million and a half pounds of burley had been disposed of on the Boone Market up to the close of business Monday evening, it was reported.

At the Mountain Burley Houses the proceeds from four sales was 1,295,012 pounds for receipts of \$820,137.00. The average is \$63.33.

At the new Big Burley warehouse only one sale was held last week. On Thursday 243,562 pounds was sold for \$147,809.42 or an average of \$60.60 per hundred.

Both companies report continuing heavy receipts of burley for coming sales.