

Cap'n "Dick" Hall Celebrates His 88th Birthday On Friday

Proud of Distinction of Being Oldest Active Fire Chief In U. S.

By Evelyn G. Leary
Living in a small town has its advantages. A warm and friendly atmosphere exists among its inhabitants as they come in daily contact with one another. A hearty hello, a pat on the back, or a friendly wave gives one an exuberant feeling of security and the importance of belonging. The habits of those we greet each day may be known to us. They may be good habits or they may be questionable ones. The good people merit rewards, the bad ones pay the penalty.



FIRE CHIEF R. K. HALL

Edenton is made up of many such good people. And one of them is the most lovable and unforgettable character ever to be born in this little town known as the Cradle of the Colony. Our hero is Captain Richard K. Hall, the oldest active Fire Chief in the United States, who, on Christmas Day will celebrate his 88th birthday at his home here on West Gale Street.

"Cap'n Dick" was born in 1865, during the bucket brigade era when fire fighting was done by buckets of water being passed from man to man. Chief Hall says that as a small boy his greatest ambition was to become a fireman when he grew up. His happiness was complete, he recalls, when at the age of 15, he was accepted as one of the "boys" by the local fire fighting unit.

Many years and many buckets of water have long since passed. A manpower fire hose cart later replaced the old bucket brigade, which was to be followed by the more recent up-to-date fire trucks. "Cap'n Dick" is mighty proud of his trucks and his firemen. He never misses a fire unless illness interferes, and the first trucks out finds him in his Chief's seat right along with his boys.

Mr. Hall is definitely a remarkable person. He wears his Chief's hat sitting rakishly on his head and springs his 88 years around like a young man calling on his lady love. His sharp blue eyes have never rested on a stranger. He just naturally loves people and judges everybody by himself no matter where he may be. Cap'n Dick's favorite pastime is holding court with his friends on a bench in front of the fire station, or he may be seen draped over the cannon at the intersection of King and Broad Streets. The two signify Edenton's oldest landmarks. The Cap'n's congenial personality not only draws one like a magnet, but his witty remarks are a delight to the town.

Chief Hall has made many children happy in the past few years. With the help of his boys at the fire department, Cap'n Dick has spent considerable time and hard work repairing old toys which are distributed to the needy families in the county at Christmas time.

We say congratulations to this grand old gentleman on his 88th birthday, and wish him a happy and merry Christmas.

Bank Will Be Closed Friday And Saturday

Governor William Umstead has made a proclamation setting aside Saturday, December 26, a banking holiday. In compliance with the proclamation, the Bank of Edenton will be closed Christmas day (Friday) and Saturday.

The bank, therefore, will be closed from Thursday of this week at 1 P. M., until 9 o'clock Monday morning, December 28. Important banking business should be transacted accordingly.

HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

Mack Privott, a student at Guilford College, came home Friday of last week to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Privott.



to you and yours
Merry Christmas

The Chowan Herald

Five More Sites Are Proposed For USO Club In Edenton

Committee Appointed to Investigate and Submit Report

Representatives from various organizations working toward establishment of a USO Club in Edenton met again Wednesday night of last week in the Parish House.

During the meeting an organization was effected in accordance with the USO policy. Mrs. J. P. Ricks, Jr., was elected chairman, Tom Sharp vice chairman, Mrs. John Reeder secretary and Parker Helms treasurer.

At this meeting more prospective sites for a USO Club were presented in addition to the Hotel Joseph Hewes and Penelope Barker House. These included four locations in the downtown section including the Badham Bros. store, the building formerly occupied by Tots and Teens, the building formerly occupied by the M. & M. Furniture Company and the room above the bus station formerly used by the VFW. A basement room at the elementary school was also presented.

A committee was appointed to investigate the various locations and report at the next meeting of the group tentatively set for Wednesday night, January 6, in the Parish House. The committee includes Dr. A. F. Downum, J. P. Ricks, Jr., Father F. J. McCourt, Tom Shepard and Mrs. Ernest Gentile.

For a colored USO Club it was reported that the Brown-Carver Library was available, provided the librarian's salary was supplemented in acting as supervisor.

A group made a tour of the Edenton base Sunday to inspect recreational facilities.

Mrs. Ricks read a letter from Thomas J. Kunz, USO regional director, which was rather encouraging, in which he stated he was pleased with the meeting he attended in Edenton and asked to be advised about the reaction of the group relative to a location. Mr. Kunz said he hoped a mutual approach could be effected to meet the local needs.

Mrs. Wales Entertains Children In Library

A Christmas story reading hour for children was held Sunday afternoon in the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library by Mrs. Charles P. Wales, librarian. The library was appropriately decorated and the children spent an enjoyable afternoon reading and listening to stories of Christmas.

Rotarians Hold Annual Club Christmas Party

Edenton Rotarians, Rotaryannes and a few invited guests enjoyed the annual Rotary Christmas party held in the Legion hut Thursday night. The building was attractively decorated for the occasion with the Christmas spirit prevailing throughout the evening.

C. W. Overman led the group in singing Christmas carols and during the evening presents were exchanged with H. A. Campen in his usual role as Santa Claus (minus a suit). John Kramer, president of the club, presided and at the close of the meeting dancing was enjoyed.

Dr. Robert T. Daniel Preaches At Baptist Church Next Sunday

Will Fill Pulpit In Absence of the Pastor, the Rev. R. N. Carroll

The speaker for Sunday, December 27, comes to the pulpit of the Baptist Church with a very interesting background in both preparation and experience. Dr. Robert T. Daniel, professor of Old Testament at the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, has accepted the invitation of the pulpit committee to preach at both the morning and evening worship hours Sunday in the absence of the pastor, the Rev. R. N. Carroll. Dr. Daniel has had rich experience in the fields of teaching and preaching; his teaching activity having extended into the fields of public school instruction and theological seminary professorship.

Born in Tennille, Georgia, Dr. Daniel holds the A.B. Degree from Mercer University, the M.A. Degree from Texas Christian University, the Th.M. and Th.D. Degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and has done graduate work at the University of North Carolina and Garrett Biblical Institute. He has taught in the public schools of North Carolina, at

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Lions Club Stages Nice Christmas Party

The Edenton Lions Club held its annual Christmas party last Tuesday night in the Lions meeting hall, and the entire group was delighted with the affair which honors the wives of the club members.

Jesse L. Harrell, president of the Lions Club, was master of ceremonies and a program was provided which included solos by Norman Leonard. The group sang Christmas carols under the leadership of Mr. Leonard.

Al Phillips was chairman of the Christmas party committee and was assisted by Tom Francis, Bruce Jones, Medlin Belch, Aubrey Turbeville, Ben Perry, T. B. Williford and Nathan Dail.

Each lady was presented a beautiful billfold by the members of the club and John Mitchener, Jr., presented each with a box of candy.

The hall was beautifully decorated and a Christmas tree was provided for all of the gifts to be placed under.

Mrs. Al Stanton, chairman of the Lioness Club, thanked the Lions for their thoughtfulness in giving the ladies the party.

Families Remembered With Christmas Gifts

In response to inquiries from four Edenton groups, the Department of Public Welfare has furnished the names of 33 families, affecting 99 people who will be remembered on Christmas.

The four groups seeking families to give a Christmas present were the Edenton Woman's Club, the Officers' Wives Club, the Empty Stocking Fund and the Baptist Missionary Society.

The Degree of Pocahontas is also arranging several baskets to be distributed, which is not included in the above figure.

Agriculture Board Renews Activities

December Meeting Devoted to Planning For 1954

The Chowan Board of Agriculture met recently when several members were absent due to the rough weather.

This was a renewal of the organization. The proposed membership is composed of one representative from each of the communities in the county plus a fertilizer dealer, a seed dealer, a produce dealer, a farm machinery dealer and a banker. The County and Assistant County Agent are ex-officio members.

The purpose of the Board is to council with and advise the county and assistant county agents in conducting the county Agricultural Extension work. At the present time the community representatives are leaders who have been active in the Extension progress and have demonstrated interest. As men's community groups are organized each community group will select its representative to the Board of Agriculture on an annual basis. The scheduled meeting time is on Friday night before the first Monday of each month.

The December meeting was devoted principally to planning for 1954. The County and Assistant County Agents gave a report of the work and activities for the month of November. Several highlights were noted. In adult work: The Farm Machinery Field Day, a new 500 hen laying house planned, the Enterprise Agricultural Club meeting, results of cotton insect control this year, results of new peanut varieties tried, home orchard planning, results of several demonstrations and a 1954 outlook meeting.

In 4-H Club work: The 4-H Achievement Day program, District and State 4-H project winners with two boys attending the National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago, 4-H community meetings and performance of the 4-H laying flock projects.

West Byrum stated that rats are doing considerable damage over Chowan County. He recommended that county-wide rat control be one of our main objectives in 1954. Lloyd Bunch stated that there is considerable interest in the use of anhydrous ammonia.

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Large Crowd Attends Special Baptist Service

Before a very large crowd Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock, the Edenton Baptist Church Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Gus Hughes, presented a very enjoyable Christmas musical program.

The adult choir, along with the Junior Choir, sang several numbers in unison. Solos were rendered by Miss Carolyn Swindell and Miss Joan Cobb. The Rev. R. N. Carroll, acting as narrator, read scripture pertaining to carols rendered by the choirs.

The congregation also joined with the two choirs in the singing of two carols.

NO ROTARY MEETING

Due to the Christmas holidays, this week's Rotary meeting has been called off. An amount equivalent to the cost of the meals has been contributed to the Empty Stocking Fund.

The regular meeting will be held Thursday of next week at 1 o'clock in the Parish House.

Farm Schools Being Scheduled In County Early Part January

Baptist Speaker



DR. ROBERT T. DANIEL

In the absence of the pastor, the Rev. R. N. Carroll, Dr. Robert T. Daniel, professor of Old Testament at the Southeastern Theological Seminary at Wake Forest, will preach at the morning and evening services at the Baptist Church Sunday.

Varsity Club Dance Features Holidays

Annual Affair In Edenton Armory Christmas Night

One of the features of the holiday season in Edenton will be the annual Christmas dance sponsored by the Varsity Club. The dance will be held in the Edenton armory on Christmas (Friday) night, starting at 9 o'clock and continuing until 1 o'clock.

Music for the dance will be provided by Dick Levin and his orchestra from State College. Because of popular demand, the Varsity Club especially sought the services of Mr. Levin, it being his fourth visit to Edenton to play for dances.

As in previous years, the Varsity Club is expecting a large crowd to attend, so that table reservations should be made at once by contacting Mrs. Jesse Harrell, phone 117-J.

Over 150 Teenagers At Christmas Party

Many Edenton Youngsters Have Time of Their Lives

Edenton's teenagers had the time of their lives Thursday night when they turned out in their best bib and tucker for the first time in formal attire, for the big Christmas party and dance held for them in the Teen-Age Club at the Elementary School building.

The club was a scene of beauty in decorations of Christmas holly, ornaments and lighted candles. The holiday spirit filled the air as approximately 150 youngsters took advantage of the big night to whoop it up and chat with their friends, as well as enjoy dancing to good music.

The dining room table was filled with an abundance of refreshments, all free to the children, which consisted of party sandwiches, Christmas cookies, mints, nuts, candy and punch. The refreshment committee, who prepared and served the plates, was composed of Mrs. T. C. Cross, Jr., Mrs. Robert Boyce, Mrs. Jimmy Partin, Mrs. Eric Haste, Mrs. Bert Willis, Mrs. Worth Spencer, Mrs. Sidney Campen, Mrs. Robert Smith and Mrs. Merle Wilkins, the club's chaperone.

Those helping with donations for the party were Mrs. Guy Hobbs, Mrs. T. B. Smith, Mrs. A. F. Downum, Mrs. Ellsworth Halsey and Mrs. John Kramer.

Musical Program At Methodist Church

The Methodist Church was practically filled Sunday night when a special musical program was presented. Aside from Christmas carols sung by the choir and congregation, special solos were sung by Norman Leonard and Mrs. Rufus Caraway. Several delightful numbers were also presented by the Edenton Junior-Senior High School Treble Clef Club.

Meetings Will Be Held In Court House Jan. 12 to 15

ALL INVITED

Important Farm Subjects Discussed By Specialists

"The application of recent agricultural research results here would mean a vast improvement in the incomes of individual farmers and would bring a great contribution to the economy of the whole county," Farm Agent C. W. Overman declares. Mr. Overman said this is the thinking back of a four-day series of classes designed to acquaint Chowan County farmers with the practical application of recent research results affecting major farming enterprises that are, or could be, conducted in Chowan County.

The classes will be held in the Chowan Court House Tuesday January 12, through Friday, January 15. Specialists from the State College Agricultural Extension Service will bring the latest recommendations in corn fertilization and production, soybean production, using anhydrous ammonia as a source of cheaper nitrogen, chemical weed control, corn storage and drying, tobacco production, farm management, forestry, chickens and turkeys and beekeeping.

Mr. Overman said that farmers may attend any of the classes, but he urged them to attend all of them. "Maybe you aren't interested in a particular enterprise that will be discussed, but it may be that this enterprise can fit in very profitably with your farming program," Overman declared. "We hope that you will attend all of the classes and find out."

Among the recent research results to be presented will be a system of growing out hogs on Ladino clover, corn, water, and minerals at a cost of only \$11 per hundred weight. "Most of us have been spending about 50 per cent more than that," according to Mr. Overman.

New fertilization recommendations and new, inexpensive sources of nitrogen will be brought to the farmers' attention, he pointed out. Mr. Overman said that the average farmer now uses only 40 pounds of nitrogen per acre on corn, but research has revealed that your corn profits increase with every pound of fertilizer up to 100 pounds of nitrogen.

Chemical weed control is an inexpensive method of controlling weeds in crops and on hedgerows when properly administered. Specialists will explain the latest practices recommended.

Tobacco is an important cash crop in Chowan County although its production is confined to about 200 farms. The newest research information and recommendations will be discussed by the Tobacco Specialists, Mr. Overman says.

Schedule for the schools follows: Tuesday, January 12: 9:00 to 12:00 A. M., "Corn and soybean production." Use of anhydrous ammonia as a source of nitrogen. "Pastures." 1:00 to 4:00 P. M., "Chemical Weed Control," "Corn Storage and Drying."

Wednesday, January 13: 9:00 to 12:00 A. M., "Tobacco Production." 1:00 to 4:00 "Managing the Farm as a Business to Increase Income." Thursday, January 14: 9:00 to 12:00 A. M., "Managing the Farm Woodlands for Profit." 1:00 to 4:00 P. M., "Poultry Production and Disease Control."

Friday, January 15: 9:00 to 12:00 "Beekeeping For Pollination and For Honey."

Jaycees' Christmas Party Held Tuesday For Underprivileged

Edenton Jaycees staged their annual Christmas party for underprivileged children at the Albemarle Motor Company plant Tuesday night.

In the neighborhood of 35 youngsters gathered for the party, during which toys and stockings were distributed and refreshments served. All of the boys and girls had a wonderful time.

Civic Calendar

Chowanoke Council, No. 54, Degree of Pocahontas, will elect officers at a meeting Friday night, January 8.

VFW Post meets in VFW home Tuesday night of next week. (Continued on Page Four)