

# After Hiatus, The Pilgrimage Offers New Glimpse Of Past

Marking a new year, the Edenton Woman Club installed its new officers during a May 1958 meeting at the Parish House.

The impressive ceremony was conducted by Mrs. John Graham. The new officers were: President Mrs. Robert Boyce; Vice President Mrs. Wesley Chesson; Recording Secretary Mrs. Ralph Blades; Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Elton Forehand; Treasurer Mrs. George A. Byrum; and Historian Mrs. J.P. Hicks.

During that meeting, gifts were presented during the meeting to Mrs. Frank Holmes and Mrs. Edward Nixon for scoring the highest points for club work. Mrs. J.P. Hines won a cash prize for submitted the best feature article in a newspaper which won the state award.

Mrs. Graham, conservation chairman, unveiled plans for planting new trees throughout Edenton. The plan was to be presented to the Edenton Town Council. One hundred crape myrtle trees were made available for planting.

The club hosted the District 16 meeting of area woman's clubs. A luncheon, which was chaired by Mrs. W.P. Earnhardt, was held at

## 50 Years Of The Edenton Woman's Club

By Marijane Schappel  
1958-59

the Masonic Temple.

In June 1958, Mrs. J.M. Thorud was named "Club Woman of the Year" for to contributions to the club and the community.

The year was also marked by the fifth biennial pilgrimage, which had been cancelled two years before. It was held on April 17 and 18. Mrs. J.M. Thorud and Mrs. Ed Bond served as co-chairmen of the event. Sixteen homes and buildings were on the tour. They were: Bandon Plantation, home

of Mrs. Herbert Leary; Albania, home of Mrs. M.G. Brown; Coffield, home of Mrs. E.W. Bond; the Charlton House, home of Mr. and Mrs. David Warren; the West Custom House, home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Leary; and the Iredell House, St. Anne's Catholic Church, the Barker House, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Chowan County Courthouse, and the Cupola House.

An outgrowth of the fifth Pilgrimage Tour was the Edenton Planning Committee. Its purpose was to develop, preserve, restore and beautify Edenton in an effort to make the earliest colonial capital more historically valuable. Edenton's first planning committee members were: Chairman, Mrs. W.J.P. Earnhardt; Co-Chairman, Mrs. Wesley Chesson; and Secretary, Mrs. J.M. Thorud; Mrs. Robert Smith; Mrs. John Kramer, Mrs. Edward Bond, Mrs. R.J. Boyce, Grayson Harding, Mrs. Inglis Fletcher, John Graham, David Warren, Gilliam Wood and Miss Elizabeth Moore.

Along those lines, the club requested the Edenton Town Council build the planned new municipal building in a colonial style and hire an architect experienced in colonial architecture.

The club began getting more involved with the local schools, donating books to the libraries, periodicals for teachers' development, funding a scholarship and sponsoring a Book Bazaar.



Committee Chairmen for the Edenton Woman's Club from 1958. of Inglis and John Fletcher; Sycamore, home of Grayson Harding; Paradise, home of Mr. and Mrs. John White; East Custom House, home of Mrs. Clare Preston; Homestead, home of Rebecca Wood

## Tips On Viewing Thursday's Rare Total Lunar Eclipse

For more than an hour on Thursday night, Sept. 26, the moon will disappear into the earth's shadow, giving North Carolinians a rare glimpse of a total lunar eclipse.

"Lunar eclipses have always exerted a strong pull on our imagination. Ancient societies viewed them as omens of disaster or great change. Today, though we no longer believe in the supernatural, we're still awestruck by their eerie majesty," says Robert A. Egler, a positional astronomer and physics lecturer at North Carolina State University.

This will be the last total lunar eclipse visible from North America until the year 2000, Egler says. To aid amateur astronomers and backyard stargazers, he offers these viewing tips:

- The moon will begin to enter the central part of the earth's shadow, called the umbra, at 9:12 p.m. The total eclipse will occur from 10:19 to 11:29, during which time the moon will be completely within the earth's shadow. At 11:30, it will begin to re-emerge, and by 12:36 a.m., it will be entirely out of the umbra and fully visible once again, weather permitting.

- If you can't locate the moon during the total eclipse phase, look for the planet Saturn instead. It will be visible as a very bright "star" about two degrees below the moon.

- Even when it is completely within the earth's shadow, the moon may still appear to have a reddish tint. This coloration is caused by the slight bending of the moon's reflected sunlight as it passes through the earth's prism-like atmosphere. "The color of red on the moon during a lunar eclipse tells us something about the earth's atmosphere: The darker the red, the more dust there is suspended in our upper atmosphere," Egler says.

- A total lunar eclipse only can occur when the moon is full.

- This eclipse will be visible throughout eastern North America, western Europe and all of South America.

- The next total lunar eclipse visible from North America will not occur until Jan. 20, 2000.

- On a historical note, it was

the curved shape of the earth's shadow on the moon during an eclipse that led the ancient Greeks to conclude, centuries before Christopher Columbus,

that the earth was a sphere.

People who plan to view the eclipse on Sept. 26 need not worry about shielding their eyes, Egler adds. Unlike solar eclipses, view-

ing a lunar eclipse cannot harm your vision.

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