

WIA Participant Completes Training

Barbara Oxendine has successfully completed her WIA Classroom training program as a Physical Therapist at Fayetteville Technical College.

Barbara reflects back on her life, raised by her grandparents on a small farm in Pembroke. She states farming was a way of living and providing for our large family of twelve. "During my educational years my grandparents stressed education as a means of success. Although my desire to continue my education after high school was great, my grandparents' financial situation meant that I would need money for college."

"I was hired in a manufacturer and worked on the assembly line for one year, then promoted to Production Supervisor; I held this position for 12 years until the plant closed. I wanted to train in a different field; I set a course for a medical field. My desire was physical therapy.

Through the assistance of WIA, I was able to apply for the Physical Therapy Program. My goal was to complete my education and seek employment as a Physical Therapist, this was my vision. If it had not been for WIA's financial resources, I would not have had this opportunity to achieve my goal. I am truly grateful to LRDA's

WIA Program for offering me this opportunity to obtain my vision and hope for the future." Barbara is now an employee at Southeastern Regional Medical Center in the Physical Therapy Department.

The WIA staff would like to congratulate Barbara for successfully completing her program and gaining employment with Southeastern Regional Medical Center.

This is what the WIA Program is all about-providing Indian people a way to accomplish their visions and goals.



Barbara Oxendine seated at desk.



Barbara Oxendine and a patient hard at work. (Photos courtesy of LRDA.)

Together Again!!

by Connee Brayboy

As we journey through our lives, we encounter many interesting and some not so interesting people. Some of them make a lasting impression on in a positive way. Others leave us happy the association was very short lived. For Rev. Hilton Deese of the Fairgrove community, the men who trained under him while he served as Platoon Sergeant at Fort Bragg, many of them shared good times and bad times, happiness and sadness. Some of them bring happy thoughts when reminiscing. So it was in 2001 when Rev. Deese was visited for the first time since Korea by Winfred Kimbrell, of Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Since that time the two men have talked frequently by phone and Kimbrell visits the Robeson area often.

Most recently he was with Rev. Deese and they were "together again." During this summer visit, Rev. Deese, brought Mr. Kimbrell to Pembroke and showed him the progress Lumbee people have made over the past fifty years. They visited the Resource Center at UNC Pembroke, the IEA Center, in Pembroke, the Pembroke Eye Clinic, where Kimbrell was introduced to Dr. Sandra Locklear, optometrist. They also

visited the offices of the Carolina Indian Voice and Rev. Deese shared the art work on display there. He is extremely proud of the art work by Karl Anthony Hunt who is a native of the Fairgrove area.

In 1953 both these men were members of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. In 1961 Rev. Deese was sent to Korea where he served with the 24th Division.

Rev. Deese as platoon sergeant, Kimbrell said, "Ran a strick ship. He was fair and honest. A man of integrity. Looking back on my years under Sgt. Deese, I have a greater appreciation for the firm hand he used with us. He always cautioned us about getting into trouble on our days off. He discouraged us greatly from drinking and carousing. In this sense, he was more of a father figure than a sergeant. If it had not been for his stern instructions, I am sure I would have been killed in East Lumberton which is were we always wanted to go to drink and hang around. I am grateful

that Hilton Deese was there for me. He did not approve of our behavior and tried to teach us what was right. I appreciate every lecture I received from him. He proved to be a true friend to me. I am just happy we are together again!



Rev. Hilton Deese, left, and his comrade Winfred Kimbrell in the offices of the Carolina Indian Voice.



Connee Brayboy, Editor of the Carolina Indian Voice, visits with Rev. Deese and Kimbrell.



Rev. Deese and Dr. Sandra Locklear



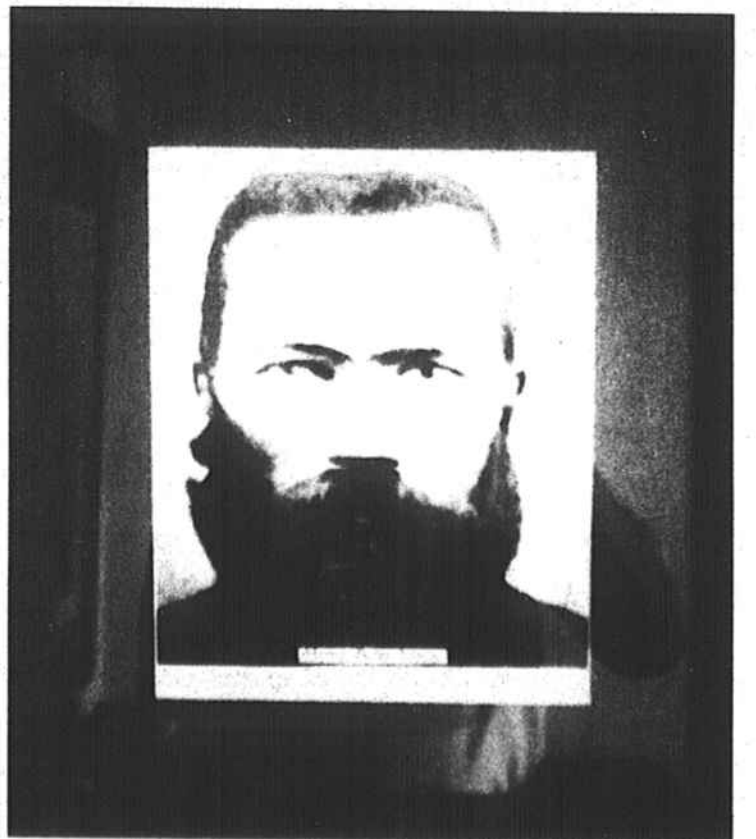
A photo of art displayed at Pembroke Eye Clinic.



A photo of Karl Anthony Hunt's rendering of Rhoda on display at the Carolina Indian Voice.



A photo of Ellis Sampson's rendering of Rhoda on display at the Carolina Indian Voice.



A photo of Henry Berry Lowrie displayed at Pembroke Eye Clinic.

CALLING DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

ALL DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF ROBESON COUNTY ARE REQUESTED TO MEET MONDAY NIGHT, JULY 28, 2003 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COUNTY ROOM # 3C OF THE ROBESON COUNTY COURTHOUSE. BUSINESS OF IMPORTANCE. DOOR PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL LEE HELEN THOMPSON 628-6642.