



ACTIVE FIREMEN—Active members of the Warrenton Colored Volunteer Firemen shown above are, left to right: kneeling—Daniel Williams, Jr., James T. Arrington; front row—Percy L. Reed, Leon Harrington, Walter Barnes, Clinton Davis, Otis Williams, Robert Coleman; back row—Claude Harrington, Cleveland Anderson, McCarroll Alston, Leon Cheek, Archie King. Active firemen not pictured are Frank Jones, Alfred Davis and Joe Reed.

Warrenton Colored Volunteer Firemen To Celebrate 100th Anniversary On July 10

History Of Warrenton Fire Dept.

MC CARROLL ALSTON,
Deputy Fire Marshall

Shortly after the Negroes received their freedom, they began to acquire property. As the Negroes became the proud owners of property, they saw the need of fire protection. A group of these property owners formed the Plummer Hook and Ladder Company. They received an official charter in 1868. Since that date the organization has continued to exist, giving Warrenton the unique honor of having the oldest Negro Volunteer Fire Department in the state of North Carolina. It also has the only all colored Volunteer Fire Department except the Department in Princeville, which is an all colored town. Through the years this organization has furnished the state association with president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, statistician, marshal, and auditor.

The first equipment of the newly organized company consisted of a wagon, several dozen buckets and a hook and ladder, built by James Ransom. The sources of water were pumps, wells, branches, springs, and cisterns. Bucket fire brigades were put in operation whenever

there was a fire. The fire alarm was a hand operated bell in a tree on the court house lawn.

In 1899, the local company obtained its first pump and its first 60 feet of hose on a reel. The pump was hand operated with little pressure that produced a small stream. In 1913, it was with great enthusiasm the company received a gasoline engine pump and another 60 feet of hose on a reel.

The fighting efficiency was further boosted in 1914 when the town installed its permanent water system. The new water supply consisted of an elevated tank with a storage of 75,000 gallons of water. It could supply 500 gallons of water a minute for four hours. Unfortunately this tank was destroyed by a big fire in August 1967.

In 1917, Warrenton's town officials purchased the first fire truck, a Ford Model T. By this time the elevated tank water system had been completed with hydrants located in the town limits. With the purchase of the fire truck, new water system and hydrants, fire protection had increased tremendously.

In 1938, the town officials

saw the need of getting another fire truck, complete with pumper, 300 gallon booster tank, chemicals, gas masks, gear, cellar nozzle, spray nozzle, 300 feet of 1 1/2 inch hose, four small and large extinguishers. With this added equipment and the training of six members of the local company at the Structural Fire Fighting School, U.S. Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia, fire protection in Warrenton took another step forward.

April 1963, Mr. Thurman Mosely, instructor with the Department of Community Colleges, started the first training program here. The men have continued training each year. They have run up a total of more than 3,920 man hours of training. The men are constantly taught the latest methods of fire fighting. Most of the training is done in the evening and at night after a hard day's work. Members of the department have also attended training classes at Rowan Technical Institute, I-85 at Klamack Road, Salisbury, N.C.; Wilson County Technical Institute, the Department of Community Colleges Fire Service Training, Wilson Fire Department, Wilson, N.C.; State of North Carolina Insurance Department, Fire and Rescue Service Division. In addition, McCarroll Alston, a member of the Warrenton Fire Department and also a fire fighting instructor, gives four hours of training to the men each month.

On June 21, 1964, another record was set by the department when Leon Cheek and McCarroll

(See HISTORY, page 4)

Stew-'Cue Sale

Barbecue and Brunswick stew will be served by the Warren County Rescue Squad at Salmon's Landing on July 4 at 12 noon. Barbecue and stew will be sold by the plate, pound or quart.

One Man Killed, Another Injured In Monday Wreck

One man was killed and another injured in a single vehicle accident on I-85 near Olin on Sunday at 4:14 a. m.

Clonnie Eugene Harrington of Charlotte, driver of the 1965 GMC tractor-trailer truck involved in the accident, was killed when the vehicle overturned in a ditch in the meridian of the highway.

Garry Ansel Horn, relief driver of the truck, who was asleep at the time, received leg injuries and bruises and abrasions. He was taken to Warren General Hospital.

Highway Patrolman V. R. Vaughan, who was the investigating officer, said yesterday that he did not know its cause. He said evidence was that the truck ran off the highway and onto the shoulders of the road where it travelled for 400 feet before crossing into the meridian and crashing in a drain-

Warrenton's Colored Fire Department, organized in 1868, will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Wednesday, July 10, with an all-day program, commencing at 10 a.m. with registration at Hawkins High School gymnasium.

Members of the North Carolina Colored Volunteer Fire Association, which will be assembled at Lenoir on that date, are expected to be special guests of the Warrenton company.

The program will be featured by an address by the Hon. Henry Bridges, State Auditor, at 3 p.m., and a demonstration of fire-fighting methods of today and yesterday.

During the demonstration, the firemen will demonstrate the use of the old-time reel and its modern firefighting equipment.

On display during the day will be the original hook and ladder wagon used when fires were fought by bucket brigades, and an old-time hand-drawn hose reel, used here for many years. The hook and ladder wagon carried a number of buckets suspended from harness hooks, from which it derives its name. It was built by Jimmy Ransom, an undertaker in later years, whose family operated a carriage factory here.

Following the registration firemen and their guests will tour the town and later enjoy a luncheon at Hawkins school lunchroom at 1 p.m.

After the firefighting demonstration in the afternoon, the firemen will participate in drawing for a car and other prizes, and will conclude the day's activity with a dance at the Hawkins gymnasium.

Will Be Closed

The Warren County Draft Board here will be closed from July 4 to July 9 while the clerk, Mrs. Thomas Ellington, is on leave. Fred Hurst, Secretary, announced Monday.

Hurst asks that boys whose birthday falls on the days when the office will be closed to report for registration on July 9.

Warren County Food Stamp Program Has Been Restored

Warrants Are Being Issued For Persons Who Failed To List Dogs

With only about half of the dogs listed for taxation and vaccination in Warren County warrants are being sworn out for the arrest of persons who fail to list their dogs for taxation and have them vaccinated.

This was learned at the regular meeting of the county commissioners on Monday morning when Claude Fleming, county dog warden appeared before the board to give his monthly report.

Fleming said that he had already sworn out several warrants and wanted the commis-

sioner's approval before swearing out any more. The commissioners approved his action and commented that the dog program could not be successful unless enforced.

Fleming said that while it was not required, he had given each dog owner known not to have listed his dog, two weeks notice before serving the warrants, and that warrants would be served as fast as the grace period expires.

Dogs may now be listed at the Animal Clinic on the Norlina road at a cost of \$2.00 for the one-year vaccine and four dollars for the three-year vaccine. This is a dollar more than the cost during the regular vaccination period which expired June 1.

Jim Limer, county attorney, said that costs in the magistrate court is around \$9.00, without a fine, and that costs in the Recorder's Court totals \$20.20. Most persons for whom warrants have been issued are expected to be tried in magistrate court.

Fleming reported that he travelled 2256 miles during June and picked up 115 dogs. He collected six dollars from the sales of two dogs and turned this amount over to the commissioners to go into the dog fund.

Told that a limited budget would only allow the program to be run for nine months this year, Fleming agreed to discontinue his work from the end of Sept. to the end of December.

Dr. J. U. Weaver of Henderson, who began his duties as part time Health Director for Warren County Monday, appeared before the commissioners with Walter Lackey of Murfreesboro, head of the Sanitary District of a number of Northeastern North Carolina Counties. The purpose of the visit was to discuss need for Sanitarians in the Warren, Vance and Granville County area. No definite action was taken by the commissioners who plan to go further into the matter following more consultation between Dr. Weaver and Lackey.

Dr. Weaver, who serves as Vance County Health Director, accepted the position of part-time Health Director for Warren County after Dr. Thomas Holt, acting director, had informed the commissioners (See WARRANTS, page 3)

Warren Auto Parts Sold To Aaron Allen

Warren Auto Parts, Inc., founded and owned by H. M. Hardy, has been sold to Aaron Allen of Warrenton, effective July 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardy, who have made their home here since the 1930's, are expected to move to Florida in about two weeks.

Warren Auto Parts is located on Main Street in the building formerly used by Allen, Son and Company.

Beauty Pageant To Be Held On August 11

The Miss Warren County Beauty Pageant, sponsored each year by the Warren County Junior Chamber of Commerce, will be staged at the John Graham High School auditorium on Aug. 11, James McGowan, publicity chairman, announced yesterday.

McGowan said that some eight girls are expected to participate and that advanced tickets would go on sale around the middle of July.

Display Flags

A. C. Fair, a member of the Flag committee of the American Legion, yesterday requested that merchants put their flags at the doors of their stores on Wednesday night in order that the police may put them in their stands for July 4.

Fair, also a member of the Merchants Association, said that Warrenton stores will be open on Wednesday afternoon due to the holiday closing on July 4.

Stamps To Be Issued Wednesday

The Food Stamp Program in Warren County, cancelled out last week only a few days before it was to be put in operation, has been restored and plans call for the cashing of food stamps to begin on Wednesday, July 10.

Julian Farrar, Welfare Director, said that the U. S. Department of Agriculture on Tuesday morning notified State Welfare Commission that the Food Stamp Program in Warren County could be started at any time. Farrar was promptly notified of the decision.

Arrangements are being made to start the program, Farrar said, with the date for cashing stamps set for next Wednesday. Persons with authorization cards may go to the Citizens Bank Drive - in Branch on the Norlina Road beginning next Monday and receive stamps. Persons who may have destroyed their authorization cards following notice of cancellation may have them re-issued by going to the trailer at the Welfare Department on the hospital grounds.

Farrar said that certification will be started immediately.

Littleton Bank To Close On Saturdays

The Littleton branch of the Branch Bank and Trust Company this week will join the growing list of banks which take Saturdays as holidays.

Robert P. Thorne, vice-president of the Littleton branch said Monday that the bank would only be open five days a week, with longer hours during other days of the week. He listed the new hours as follows:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9 to 1 and 3 to 5 and 9 to 1 on Wednesday. Friday hours will be 9 to 1 and 3 to 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Gid Tharrington, Jr., visited her father, Mr. M. J. Spain in the hospital at Chapel Hill on Saturday.

Allen Tucker Is Installed As Lions Club President

J. Allen Tucker, owner and manager of Radio TV Center, was installed as president of the Warrenton Lions Club at the regular meeting of the club held in the club rooms of the Warrenton Rural Volunteer Firehouse last Friday night. He succeeds F. P. Whitley, whose term of office has expired.

Bill Benton of Littleton, District Deputy Governor of District 31-G was the installation

officer. Other officers and directors installed were: Scott Gardner, first vice president; Jack Harris, second vice president; J. B. Thompson, third vice president; Clyde Whitford, secretary; Bob Bright, treasurer; Fred Hurst, Lion Tamer; Eddie Clayton, Tall Twister; and two-year-directors J. Ed Rooker, Jr., and W. R. Drake.

President Tucker has been a

Lion for the past 15 years and has held every office in the club, and has served as chairman of the White Cane and other important committees during his membership in the club.

Retiring President F. P. Whitley presided over the meeting. Lion Rooker said the grace and Lion Dorman Blaylock led the group in singing. Hy. Diamond was Lion X and Billy Lanier won the dollar.

Sam Justice was a guest of Lion Lanier.

Following the installation of the new officers, President Tucker thanked the members for electing him president, pledged his best efforts to carry on the good work of the club and asked those present for their support during his tenure of office.

Lion J. Ed Rooker, Jr., praised the work of the retiring president, F. P. Whitley.



Newly installed officers and directors of the Warrenton Lions Club are, left to right: Fred Hurst, Lion Tamer; Eddie Clayton, Tall Twister; Scott Gardner, first vice president; J. Ed Rooker, Jr., director; Clyde Whitford, secretary; Bob Bright, treasurer.

J. B. Thompson, third vice president; J. Allen Tucker, president; and W. R. Drake, director. Jack Harris, second vice president, was not present when the picture was made.

All-Stars Are Chosen For Little League Tournament

All - Stars of the regular division and of the senior division of the Little League have been chosen by coaches, umpires and officials to represent the Warrenton Little League in tournament play this year.

Chosen to play following the finish of play last Wednesday at Lions Field the following boys were chosen to represent the regular division: Lance Dillard, Eddie King, Mike Aycock, E. J. Burgess, Jr., Andy Garrett, Joe Greer, Mike Sipe, Jack Thompson, Greg Williams, Bobby Dean Bolton, Wiley Coleman, Joe Shearin, Al Whitmore and Chuck White. The group chose Richard Blankenship, Stewart Satterwhite, Marvin Cox and Waverly Thompson as alternates. These boys will train with the team and will be ready to play if needed.

Chosen at the end of play last Thursday night to represent the senior division were Macon Robertson, Donald S. Wimbrow, Wayne Wilson, David Brantley, Randall Williams, Gary Egerton, Robin Capps, Jim Elam, Larry Short, Jackie Walker, Kenny Clayton, Alan Floyd, Carl Lynch and Burwell Powell. The alternates chosen were Robert Loyd, Jeff Egerton, Franklin Renn and C. S. Sipe.

Warrenton league officials attended a meeting in Greenville last Saturday when final arrangements were made for playing the tournament games. The Warrenton regular team drew Pope Air Force Base for their first game which will be played at Tarboro on Wednesday, July 24, at 3 p. m. The senior division team drew Morehead City for their first

game which will be played in Greenville on the same field on which last year's game was played. It is scheduled for Thursday, July 18.

Howard Oakley, league manager, said Monday that the senior division will begin tournament practice on July 3 and will have at least one practice game with a team of players from the rest of the teams. He said these games will be announced at a later date.

The regular division will start practice, Monday, July 15, as a number of boys are going to Scout Camp the week of July 7 to 14.

The district champion will advance to the sectional tournament at Sylva on July 25-27. Sylva is about 45 miles of Asheville on Highways 23 and 19A.

The division tournament will be played at Clemmons on July 29-Aug. 3. Clemmons is just off Highway 40 about 12 miles west of Winston-Salem.

The regional tournament will be held at Charleston, W. Va., on Aug. 5-10, and the World Series Tournament will be held at Gary, Indiana, on Aug. 12-17.

Oakley said the best route for the game at Greenville is to take Highway 45 from Warrenton and follow it through Rocky Mount to Greenville. Memorial Drive is at the first traffic light and first Main Road intersection (Highway 13 and 11) in Greenville. Turn right and when you pass Holiday Inn which is on the left, with Guy Smith Stadium on the right. Oakley said there is plenty of parking space at the stadium.