



Mary Catherine Harris

Ol' Bob Laid To Rest

It was three years ago about this time that we laid Ol' Bob to rest. With just eight years to his credit, the Australian Blue Heeler which was our family pet and also my husband's cattle dog had lived hardly long enough even by the canine calendar to command such esteem. In fact, I rather believe it has been only since his death that we have come to call the dog more fondly Ol' Bob and not just Bob.

It is not too surprising, for even as a young thing Bob looked old. When the six-week-old pup first came to live with us, his small frame wore even then in a thick coat of salt-and-pepper gray. And he grew into a creature of wolfish countenance which itself invited respect.

Besides the markings of a breed which gave the dog a venerable air, Bob's aging process was hastened by what seemed an early admission to the university of hard knocks. Within one week after his adoption by our family, he lay stretched out on a vet's table undergoing surgery for a fractured hip. He had sustained the injury while riding atop a toolbox on the back of my husband's pickup, when he failed to round a certain curve with the toolbox.

With twice-a-day medication for several weeks and goodly doses of attention from a doting family, the injury healed but it left Bob with a limp which he carried the remainder of his days. The same hip took a second blow months later when he tarried too close to the wheels of a vehicle traveling along the highway in our neighborhood. With the second injury came another round of nursing and doting.

Continuing in the line of misfortunes was the evening I came home from choir practice and found my entire family on the floor in a circle hovering over a thrice wounded Bob. This time the culprit had been a copperhead waiting undercover as the dog went for his evening meal. Again, lots of tender loving care and an agent called turpentine got Bob back on his feet where he stayed until one day at the farm when he nosed his way into rations intended for rats. (I suppose it was his appetite for food and highway which made Bob's life so mishap-laden.

It seemed by this time there was not one calamity which Bob did not intend to taste and each one served to strengthen his endearment to our family. He possessed those traits of loyalty and faithfulness and alertness which often identify his species as man's best friend.

My husband and I recently were telling a friend about Ol' Bob and his hard but good life. I was having nothing but the warmest of thoughts for the faithful creature when my husband reminded me of Bob's worst vice, well-known to those who frequented our home. "But that dog was death on a tire!" he exclaimed.

How could I have forgotten, I wondered, as I recalled the embarrassment and anger and near delirium that dog had caused me with his enchantment with the moving tires on automobiles which entered and departed from our driveway. As a matter of fact, I remember now that it became such a problem that I begged my husband to take the dog to live at the farm where he would no longer be able to sink his teeth into those tires belonging to our company at home.

As our reminiscing continued, I became thoroughly amused with myself, for I had realized long ago that's the way it is when people—and I suppose more lowly animals, too—pass on from this life. The memories which linger are almost always better than true life and the eulogies we deliver are seldom anything less than complimentary.

So with brief attention to the less desirable traits of that dog which was ours for eight years, I'll go on fondly remembering Ol' Bob and I'll wager that long before the next three years pass, his worst habit will again have slipped into oblivion.



Wilson St. Sing, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robin St. Sing of Macon, displays the model ship which earned him his second first-place award in as many years at competition at Heck's in South Hill, Va., sponsored by the Southside Virginia Community College. The freighter model bears the name, U.S.S. New Jersey. The competition was held on Saturday, Feb. 28. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

Fish Day
It's Time For Stocking

CHANNEL CATFISH, HYBRID BLUE GILL, Fathead minnows, Large Mouth Bass, Black Crappie. The Hybrid Blue Gill will reach a weight of 2 1/2 to 3 pounds.

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Call your local store to place your order or call
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Fish Wagon, Inc.
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Harrisburg, Arkansas 72432

Letters To Editor

Appropriate

To The Editor:

The ice storm which destroyed most of the awnings on Warrenton's Main Street may be a blessing in disguise!

In driving the length of the town Sunday, March 8, after church with little traffic to distract our eyes, we realized how really handsome the old store fronts are! If awnings must be put back, please consider canvas. It is much more appropriate for the age of the town.

SARAH KEARNEY WATKINS
NANCY WILLIAMS
Warrenton

Column Ends

To The Editor:

It was a little over a year ago when you began running my "North Carolina Literary Notes" column in your newspaper. I have enjoyed dealing with you and hope that your readers in Warren County have derived some degree of entertainment and benefit from reading the articles that I sent you.

Unfortunately, I find now that it is going to be necessary for me to discontinue "North Carolina Literary Notes," which I began in September 1985 in The Pilot of Southern Pines. The demands of my time are such that I am now unable to keep up with the reading and research needed to be able to write it every week. I regret having to make this decision, but it appears unavoidable. I have given some thought to collecting the best of the columns into a book. If this materializes, I will try to advertise it in Warrenton and the other towns in which the column ran.

One of the most pleasant things about producing and distributing this column has been my associations—even if only at long distance—with the various editors. I hope to meet you in person someday. I continue to work, of course, for the N. C. Division of Archives and History in Raleigh, where I am an editor in the Colonial Records Branch of the Historical Publications Section. Back in November, the Division published a book entitled "Literary North Carolina," written by Professor Richard Walser and me, which I hope you will see some time.

Again, I have appreciated your business and wish you the very best as you carry on The Warren Record.

E. T. MALONE, JR.
Chapel Hill

Education Board

(Continued from page 1)

group to meet with the board about the proposed transfer. "Parents want an increase rather than a decrease," he concluded.

Two parents, Dr. Nannette Henderson and Mrs. Bernadine Ballance, reacted to the perceived lack of adequate parental representation on the proposed committees to study weighted grade point averages and report cards. The composition of the proposed committee to study weighted grade point averages was two students, two lay persons, five staff members (including chairman) and six teachers. "Since decisions reached will affect our children," Mrs. Ballance said, "parents should be in the majority. We can add beneficial personal experiences."

Dr. Nannette Henderson expressed similar concerns about the composition of the proposed committee to study grading and reporting to parents, but added that representation from all school levels should be present. "More parents should be involved," she said. The original composition of the committee was three parents, three principals, three staff members (including chairman) and six teachers.

Board Chairman Henry T. Pitchford, Jr. responded to the requests by appointing Dr. Henderson, Mrs. Ballance and board member Yarborough Williams to the committees.

Committee membership is as follows:

—Weighted Grade Point System: Melissa Draffin and Rodney French (students); Mrs. Bernadine Ballance, Ms. Thurlletta



The Silo Restaurant of Henderson was the site of a celebration Thursday night in honor of employees with years of service to Cochrane Furniture Company. Among those employees recognized were five

individuals with 15 years of service to the organization. Shown are, left to right, Millard Richardson, Dot Bobbitt, Fred Harris, Louise Langston and John Russell.



Six employees with 10 years of service each to Cochrane were among those feted at the Thursday evening banquet held at the Silo in Henderson.

Shown are, left to right, Floyd Shaw, Lillian Richardson, Joe Richardson, Jerry Jones, Ida Hargrove and Alphonso Alexander.



Employees with five years of service were among those honored Thursday night at the awards program held at the Silo by Cochrane Furniture Company, Inc. Shown, left to right, are Terry

Davis, Elizabeth Myrick, Sarah Cole, Frances Terry, Timothy Maynard, Mary Ann Hunt, Linda Ellington, Mary L. Davis and Evelyn Scott. (Staff Photos by Howard Jones)

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At:
John Graham Library
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Instructor:
Anthony W. Adams
Partner—Edward D. Jones & Co.
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Mary Hunter
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Economic damage from hail in the United States, primarily through destruction of crops, exceeds that caused by tornadoes, says National Geographic.

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