

Calendar of Church Events

Beech Glen Baptist Church

To Celebrate 50th Anniversary

The Beech Glen Baptist Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 23. Former pastor Rev. Dearl Ammons will be the guest speaker. Sunday School class will begin at 9:45 a.m., followed by the morning worship service at 10:45 a.m. Lunch will be served in the Greater Ivy Community Center at 12:30 p.m. There will also be a singing and worship service at 2 p.m. Pastor Rev. Stanley Peek invites everyone to attend the anniversary services.

Sheriff Ponder Is Roasted

It was billed as a 'roast' for Sheriff E.Y. Ponder, but last week's fundraiser for State Sen. Robert Swain was more a tribute to the Madison County lawman.

A host of Democratic Party leaders were on hand to tell tales on the sheriff, but most complimented Ponder on his long career and poked fun at his driving style.

Haywood County Sheriff Jack Arrington told the gathering of 250, "You talk about high technology, Sheriff Ponder doesn't have to watch the road. He keeps his eye on the trees. Where the trees aren't, that's where the road is."

Wayne McDevitt represented Gov. James B. Hunt at the roast. McDevitt read a letter of appreciation from Gov. Hunt to Sheriff Ponder and a second proclamation designating the day as 'Bob Swain Day.'

McDevitt complimented Ponder for providing his deputies with 'designer' uniforms and the most up-to-date patrol cars. Referring to the sheriff's habit of keeping scores of notes in his shirt pocket, McDevitt said, "He has a computerized filing system. Everything goes in 'P' for pocket."

McDevitt compared Ponder with a loaf of French bread, "Not much dough, but a lot of crust."

Dr. H.E. Hinman, the Buncombe County medical examiner praised Ponder saying, "He has the quaint old custom of answering the telephone himself. He loves the people of Madison County and of this state."



Elsbeth Clarke, wife of the 11th District congressman said Sheriff Ponder went into law enforcement because he was left in charge of his brothers and sisters when they were children.

Speaker of the House Liston Ramsey told of the time he and the sheriff went to a funeral together in Waynesville. Ramsey said he introduced the sheriff to an old man who asked, "Say your name is Ponder, eh? You any kin of that Bruno Ponder who's always raising hell?"

The man was referring to the sheriff's younger brother, Zeno. Ramsey told the gathering, Ponder told the man, "Naw, I've never heard of him."

Recalling the many times he's called on Ponder's assistance, Haywood County Sheriff Jack Arrington said, "I've called him in the dark of night, in snows, rain and hailstorms. He should've been a mailman."

Buncombe County Sheriff Tom Morrissey said Ponder decided to run for sheriff after serving on the county school board. "He decided law en-

forcement was safer," Morrissey said. Morrissey added, "We think of E.Y. as ten feet tall. It's a pleasure to work with him."

The sheriff's brother, Zeno, closed out the jibes by saying that E.Y. was the seventh son.

Zeno told the gathering that he tried to persuade his older brother from running for sheriff. "I told him it wasn't worth it, but that I'd support him so the family wouldn't be embarrassed. He disregarded my advice and after 30 years of that foolishness, I agreed to support him if he would promise to investigate my death if I don't live to be 100. He's been a good friend and brother and I love him."

Speaking of the sheriff, State Sen. Robert Swain, a former Madison County solicitor, said, "I learned a whole lot about living from him. He's a man I admire. He's loyal to his country and his God, his family and the Democratic Party."

Swain presented Ponder with a sketch of a portrait he has commissioned.

After listening to the many speakers, the sheriff told his friends, "I was worried that you might talk to Mrs. Ponder and that she'd tell you the truth."

Countering the criticism of his driving habits, the sheriff said, "A lot of people don't know when they have a good driver."

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Don't neglect your daily reading! Attend the church or synagogue of your choice this week.

Scriptures selected by The American Bible Society
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Sunday Deuteronomy 30:1-20
Monday Psalms 65:1-13
Tuesday Matthew 13:1-23
Wednesday Colossians 1:15-23
Thursday Ephesians 1:3-14
Friday Romans 7:7-13
Saturday Genesis 18:1-15

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