

# Arts Council To Award Seed Money

The Duplin County Arts Council has \$1,165.20 available for innovative arts projects planned for this winter and spring. Any organization which operates on a not-for-profit basis, such as churches, schools, civic groups, clubs, etc., are eligible to receive mini-grants to assist in their programming.

The allotment represents approximately a third of the Arts Council's Grassroots Arts program funds, which is awarded to each county in the state on a per capita basis through the N.C. State Legislature. The rate per person which each receives is 14.622 cents. The other two-thirds is spent in the Council's Arts-in-the-Schools program.

"This is the third year the Arts Council has been able to offer 'seed money' to groups interested in doing special arts projects," DCAC executive director Merle Creech says. "We are very grateful that Grassroots funds were approved in full by the

Legislature. The Board of Directors of the Arts Council had decided to offer again this money to the community as incentive for the development of new arts programming. This year we will be looking for fresh new programs that further the arts in Duplin County."

The Grassroots funds will be awarded in a series of mini-grants to organizations which apply for special assistance. All funds must be spent by June 30 or the money reverts back to the state.

The criteria for organizations applying for funds include: sufficient organizational structure to insure that the funds will be spent wisely and accounted for in a proper manner; a responsible project director; the project must meet a need in the community (it cannot duplicate services already provided); the project must have artistic value and be innovative; the project must be designed to reach new audi-

ences and participants and the project must have community support.

No grant will be made which represents over 50 percent of the total budget of the project. "The seed money is not intended to pay for an entire project," Mrs. Creech explained. "Grant requests should be geared toward a specific facet of the entire project."

Deadline for application is Feb. 10. Application blanks are available at the Arts Council office, room #109, Duplin County courthouse, and can be mailed to an organization on request. Call 296-1922. Grants will be awarded Feb. 20. For further information, contact Mrs. Creech.

"We encourage any organization which plans a special winter or spring project to consider applying for a grant," Creech says. "Spread the word. Think creatively and let's spread new possibilities for the arts throughout the county."



**AT THE DUPLIN COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL, JANUARY IS GRASSROOTS MONTH. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECTS. DO YOU HAVE ONE IN MIND? WRITE FOR OR PICK UP AN APPLICATION AT THE ARTS COUNCIL, OR CALL 296-1922. REMEMBER, FEBRUARY 10 IS THE DEADLINE.**

## State Income And Intangibles Tax

G. Harold Rose, local revenue officer for the N.C. Department of Revenue, advises that personnel to assist in filing State income and intangibles tax returns will be available on Tuesdays of each week through April 16. The office is located in Kenansville on South Courthouse Square and assistance is available between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Rose requests that tax-

payees bring the pre-addressed forms which were mailed to them from Raleigh.

Taxpayers filing their own returns should mail those which indicate a refund to the N.C. Department of Revenue, Post Office Box R, Raleigh, NC 27634. Other completed returns should be mailed to the N.C. Department of Revenue, PO Box 25000, Raleigh, NC 27640.

## Registration Card Falsification To Draw Additional Charge

When North Carolina vehicle owners sign the back of their registration cards to certify their insurance coverage in renewing their license plates, they are putting more than just their names on the line.

North Carolina law requires auto liability insurance to be in force at all times for vehicles registered in this state, according to R.W. Wilkins, commissioner

of the division of motor vehicles for the state Department of Transportation.

Wilkins has announced that warrants will be issued for persons who sign the insurance certification when liability insurance is not in force or has lapsed.

Violation of either of the two statutes is a misdemeanor, punishable by fines and/or imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

## Reminder To Purchase Kenansville Town Tags

Kenansville town license plates are available at the town hall at \$2 each. According to a town ordinance, each owner of a vehicle operated in the town must purchase a plate before Feb. 15. These do not have to be displayed on the vehicle.

The penalty for failure to purchase the license plates is \$5 to the town tax collector as a civil penalty in lieu of criminal prosecution.

The ordinance provides for the waiver of purchase for any individuals serving as firemen or members of emergency medical teams. No

more than one motor vehicle owned by each member is to be exempted from the ordinance.

# Funding Available For Public Transportation

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is accepting applications for federal funds to provide public transportation in rural and small urban areas.

Secretary W.R. Roberson Jr. has announced the availability of these funds to mayors, county commissioners and transportation officials in a Jan. 6 memorandum.

The Section 18 program provides financial assistance to public transportation systems in non-urbanized areas for planning, capital and operating expenses.

Non-urbanized areas are incorporated towns having less than 50,000 population and not designed as urbanized areas by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Counties and multi-county areas that do not contain an urbanized area are also eligible for funds under Section 18. Counties that contain an urbanized area may receive funds to provide services to non-urbanized sections.

Eligible recipients include: municipalities or other political subdivisions of the state; public agencies of municipal government or other political subdivisions; public corporations, boards and commissions established under state law; and public institutions of higher learning.

It is said by some that the most popular breed of dog in the United States is the poodle.

Nonprofit organizations and private operators of public transportation may be eligible to receive Section 18 funds if the funding request is endorsed by resolution of the local governmental body.

Transportation systems eligible for funding may specialize in providing services to the elderly, handicapped or the clients of a social service agency, but the service must also be available to the general public.

Section 18 provides 80 percent of the funds for project administrative expenses and the purchase of vehicles, radios, wheelchair lifts, and passenger shelters.

Section 18 funds may also be used to provide 50 percent of the net cost of operating

the transportation service and up to 90 percent of planning costs.

David King, director of public transportation in NCDOT, said, "In the past four-and-one-half years, many counties and small cities have made great progress towards meeting the public transportation needs of their citizens through this program."

NCDOT's public transportation staff will be available to assist Section 18 fund applicants. Application deadline is March 16, 1984. For more information, contact Charles Glover at the Public Transportation Division, NCDOT, P.O. Box 25201, Raleigh, NC 27611 or phone (919) 733-4713.



### MEETS WITH EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Duplin is one of the first rural school districts to form an Education Foundation to seek private funding for the advancement of educational opportunities and facilities in the county. The Foundation Board of Directors met last week with Dr. Douglas Moore, East Carolina University director of

Institutional Advancement, to determine goals and guidelines for the organization in relationship to the future needs of the Duplin County public school system. Pictured above, left to right, Ed Holt, president of the Duplin Education Foundation and Dr. Douglas Moore with East Carolina University.

## Public School Foundations New In State

Duplin is one of very few public school systems in North Carolina to establish a foundation for the purpose of raising funds from private sources, Dr. Douglas Moore, director of institutional advancement at East Carolina University, told members of the Duplin Education Foundation Board of Directors last week.

"The purpose of any board of education is to provide the best possible education for the children, not build buildings," Dr. Douglas Moore said. "Establishing a foundation is the best thing rural school boards can do to further educational opportunities in their systems." Moore pointed out only four school boards in the 32-county service area surrounding East Carolina University have foundations. Within the 32 counties are 39 public school districts. A foundation within the public school system can establish tax exemption for gifts and funds generated by the organization have no state and federal spending guidelines or regulations.

The recently established Duplin Education has an 18-member Board of Directors and Moore suggested the appointment of an executive director. Office

holders include Ed Holt, president; Jene Thompson, vice-president; Harriet Farris, secretary; and Bill Hennessee, treasurer.

Immediate goals of the Foundation were tentatively approved last week by members present. Recommendations included sponsoring computer camps in each of the four county high schools during summer vacation. The foundation also plans to fund three mini-grants to teachers with innovative instructional projects. The grants will be awarded one each at the elementary, middle and high school level. The continuation of the Teacher of the Year program was recommended. Providing two \$150 scholarships at each high school to James Sprunt Technical College and support for an academic banquet for students who excel were part of the recommendations brought before the Duplin Education Foundation.

Moore encouraged Foundation members to identify their school system's needs and develop a long-range plan to present potential contributors. Sticking with a responsible and well-planned course of action would yield progress, he added. During the organizational stages

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