



SCS EMPLOYEE RECEIVED HONOR AWARD — Thomas Stanton Harrell was recognized for outstanding performance during the period April 1973 to April 1974 at the Soil Conservation Annual Award Ceremony at the Sheraton-Crabtree Motor Inn in Raleigh on May 24. The award was presented by Jesse L. Hicks, State Conservationist, on behalf of the Soil Conservation Service. Harrell was one of 46 employees who received awards for performance of assigned duties. Six employees were recognized for having completed 30 years of service and one employee was recognized for having completed 40 years of service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



E. EUGENE CAUSBY

County COA Graduates

"A guide to successful living includes a self that you can live with; a cause to live for; and a faith to live by", E. Eugene Causby told the 113 College of the Albemarle graduates during commencement exercises Friday night.

The assistant superintendent for personnel relations and public affairs of the State Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh said the future is a challenge. "It won't be easy and you will probably have some failures."

"Failure and adversity can bring the best out in good people," the speaker added.

Dr. S. Bruce Petteway, COA president, presented a special award to Julian A. White, retired Board of Trustee member.

Dr. Petteway and Selby Scott, board chairman conferred degrees to the following from the area:

Associate in Arts Degree — Gabrielle Anne Baker of 600 Pennsylvania Avenue; Thomas Wayne Proctor of Route 1; and LuAnn Stallings of Belvidere.

Secretarial Administration Technology — Elizabeth Wingfield Brinn of 208 N. Front St. and Janet Faye Spivey of Belvidere.

General Office Technology — Linda Faye Bunch of Tyner; and Lillia Hinton Overton of Route 3.

Nursing — Virginia Lee Copeland of Route 2; Rebecca Evelyn Elliott of Route 4; Mary Bundy Forbes of Route 3; and Vickie Goodwin Jordan of Tyner.

Drafting and Design Technology — Jack Steven Harrell of Route 2; Reginald Spivey Winslow of Belvidere; and Willis Bruce Winslow of Belvidere.



NEW CLUB SITE — Shown above is the new location of the Perquimans County Horse and Pony Club. It is located 2.1 miles further than the old site. The first show of the season is scheduled for Sunday, June 9 at 1:30 p.m. (Photo by Ray Ward)

Ol' Grayback A Hero

A hero of the American Revolution is out on a limb, likely to be overlooked for the nation's 200th birthday.

He didn't fire the shot heard round the world. But in his way he taught the colonists how to shoot straighter than men from any other land — straight enough, in a twanging ballad of the hills, to "knock a squirrel's eye out at 90 feet."

Old Grayback or Silvertail, as some still call him, is in fact the gray squirrel, *Sciurus carolinensis*.

He is a survivor of civilizations and Indian arrows alike, a leaping shadow and a rustle in the leaves of sylvan glade and suburban subdivision, an acrobatic daredevil, a brazen beggar in city parks, and a brave defender in three top dramas.

But his place in life may well be in the bullseye of American history, the National Geographic Society says.

SQUIRRELER'S AIM

In the skirmishes of the Revolution, backwoodsmen with their long-barreled Kentucky squirrel rifles used to say that it took a Redcoat his weight in lead to hit and kill an American, but Yankee bullets, about 90 to the pound, found their marks every time.

British soldiers frequently found that such point-blank bragging was backed up by deadeye marksmanship, learned in a world where the day's food was often rifle-won.

And the favorite target was the squirrel, fattened on acorns and weighing about a pound, chattering and chasing through the hardwoods from Florida to

Canada. "Squirrelin" meant the constant rifle practice that produced a country of sharpshooters. The seemingly awkwardly long squirrel rifle astonished new arrivals from Europe, and its accuracy is impressive today.

When they weren't shooting squirrels through the eye, good shots bagged their trophies by "barking" them. The well-aimed ball slammed against the tree bark the squirrel was hugging, knocking the tiny victim to the ground, senseless but untouched.

As the land was cleared, squirrels frequently preferred feasting on new cornfields to up-and-down-the-tree foraging amid butternuts, hickories, white oaks, and hazelnuts. They soon were proclaimed pests and thousands of hunters began collecting bounties.

HUNTERS OR LIARS

Bags of a hundred or more squirrels a day were reported so often that one skeptic commented, "Our pioneer forefathers were powerful hunters, powerful liars, or both."

Today thousands of squirrels are shot each year and hunters and squirrel lovers argue over whether the species are being threatened.

One naturalist says, "Hunters rarely take more than 10 percent of the fall population, which is about one fourth of the number that will die before the winter young are born."

A clue to Bushytail's future may be in another comment:

"The old timer, whose nearest neighbor was five miles down the road with nothing but squirrels between, is now replaced by the man who finds his squirrels ten miles down the road, with nothing but neighbors in between."

The Law This Is

By ROBERT E. LEE
(Sponsored by The Lawyers of North Carolina)

ORAL MORTGAGE

Joe Jones owned a farm that was worth \$50,000. Needing \$2,000, he went to see Tom Tucker for the purposes of negotiating a loan for this amount.

It was orally agreed, in the presence of several witnesses, that Jones should convey his farm to Tucker by an ordinary deed and that the delivered deed should stand as a mortgage to secure the loan of \$2,000 and Jones should have as much as three years to redeem the same. Jones executed and delivered the deed and got the loan of \$2,000 on the basis of this agreement.

Two years later Jones tendered to Tucker the \$2,000, with interest, and requested the re-conveyance of his farm. Tucker refused to re-convey the farm. He had decided, subsequent to the making of the oral agreement, that he liked the farm and wanted to keep its ownership.

Does Jones have a legal remedy?

No. Jones has conveyed to Tucker his farm by an absolute deed and Jones no longer has any rights or ownership in the farm. He has disposed of his \$50,000 farm for \$2,000.

Extra Checks

Supplemental security income checks should be cashed within a reasonable time to prevent loss of theft — even though there's no time limit on cashing them.

The supplemental security income program has established a national income floor for people with little or no income and limited resources who are 65 or over, or blind, or disabled. Checks are delivered in the first week of every month.

It's a good idea to sign your supplemental security income check in front of the person who will cash it. If you sign a check and then lose it, it could be cashed by anyone who finds it.

The Elizabeth City social security office is at 111 Jordan Plaza. The phone number is 338-2161.

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A CHANCE

What is compensatory education? The N.C. Department of Public Instruction defines compensatory education as giving socially and economically disadvantaged children a chance to catch up in education.

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