



Decorating Tryon Palace

Tryon Palace hostess Mrs. Bettye Paramore arranges fruit and greenery in the palace for the opening of Christmas season on Dec. 9. For the first time since the palace was opened to the public 20 years ago in New Bern, the interiors will be fully decorated for the holidays.

Winslow finishes term as NCSBA head

Clifford Winslow presided at eleventh annual convention of the North Carolina School Boards Association, held in Asheville recently.

Winslow, of Belvidere, is chairman of the Perquimans County School Board, and served as NCSB President this past year.

Also attending NCSB's annual meeting from Perquimans County were schools superintendent Pat Harrell, and school board members George Baker, and Preston Stevenson.

The convention opened Thursday afternoon, Nov. 13, with a question-answer period

on the role and responsibility of the Department of Public Instruction.

Dr. Jerome Melton, Deputy State Superintendent, and Dr. David Bruton, Chairman of the State Board of Education fielded questions from board members.

Friday morning was

devoted to a discussion of the 1980 NCSBA Legislative Program. Board members had an opportunity to speak to the convention on specific parts of the program, ranking each part according to its importance.

Some 500 school board members and administrators attended the convention held at Asheville's Inn on the Plaza.

for the education of our youth is an awesome one. No less than our best is acceptable in our performance of that task.

"While in many ways our role gets increasingly more challenging, so do the rewards of having done a tough job responsibly. The only way we can continue to carry out our role as it grows in difficulty is to grow in our ability.

"This convention has been planned by our association leaders and staff to enhance our opportunities to grow," said Winslow.

Cautious driving urged

The N.C. State Motor Club estimates 20 could lose their lives in traffic accidents in North Carolina over the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Exceeding safe speed continues to be the number one cause of fatal accidents along with driving under the influence of alcohol.

Carolinians have lost their lives in traffic accidents, and with the growth of the small car population to conserve fuel, motor vehicle fatalities show every indication of continuing a relentless climb.

In a collision between a subcompact and a full-sized car, occupants in the smaller car are eight times more likely to be killed. However, lower speeds clearly reduce the risk and severity of injuries.

In a message to convention participants, Winslow spoke on the responsibilities facing educators.

"Our task as policymakers

The state will count its toll over a 102-hour period beginning 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26, until midnight Sunday, Nov. 30.

Dr. John G. Fraizer, III, president of the statewide motor club, urges all motorists to take a deeper interest in highway safety by actively supporting the 55-mph speed limit, refraining from driving while drinking, and using safety belts.

To date, 1,288 North

Last year 17 persons were killed and 1,081 injured on Tarheel highways during a similar period, while 29 were killed in 1978.

Peoples Bank, headquartered in Rocky Mount, has 48 offices in 27 cities.

Peoples reports

The Board of Directors of Peoples Bank and Trust Company recently declared a dividend of 32 cents per share on the bank's common stock for the fourth quarter of 1980. The dividend is payable

Dec. 31, 1980, to shareholders or record on Dec. 17, 1980. The ex-dividend was set for Dec. 11, 1980.

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Watching little ones, taking pride in the bigger ones and enjoying the older ones makes Thanksgiving a truly special occasion.

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Tryon Palace decor reflects servants' tastes

NEW BERN — The garlands of greenery draped from elegant mahogany staircases and elaborate arrangements of fruits on carved mantles and rare antique furniture attracted most of the oohs and aahs last year when Tryon Palace opened its doors fully decorated for an 18th century Christmas for the first time.

But to holiday season visitors to North Carolina's colonial capitol some of the most appealing and original decorations were found in the kitchen wing where H. Grady Wheeler, Jr. has unleashed his educated imagination.

Wheeler, a floral artist from Beaufort, guided the actual construction and installation of the 18th century decorations under a 22-page master plan developed after extensive research by the Tryon Palace Commission. He will perform the same function this year when Tryon Palace's 18th century Christmas season opens on Dec. 6.

And, he plans to repeat some of the unique, smaller decorations that he devised last year in those areas where the servants of North Carolina's royal governors lived and worked.

"The Christmas decorations inside Tryon Palace have to be elegant to recreate the atmosphere of splendor that Governor Tryon would have demanded in 1770 in keeping with his English furnishings, which has been reproduced here with what are now valuable antiques," Wheeler asserts.

"But the servants who made those decorations for Tryon Palace would have also attempted to capture the joy of the season in their surroundings, too. The only difference is that

they would not have been able to afford the expensive fruits and other decorations that would have been used in the Palace," he reasoned.

The surrounding woods would have yielded plentiful greenery for a royal governor and his staff alike. All the servants had to do was supply a little more imagination to use everyday materials that they might have found readily at hand.

Following this reasoning, Wheeler made a wreath for the kitchen wing from red peppers. "The peppers would have had to dry anyway, so the servants wouldn't have wasted anything," he noted.

He also created an unusual wall-hanging decoration by coupling seashells, lemons and greenery. "No one would have cared if the servants found a use for shells, but as you can see they can be used effectively," Wheeler said.

Using the same logic, Wheeler used the wishbones from poultry with cranberries and greens to create a unique centerpiece.

"I think that's the most unusual thing we did. I've never heard of anything quite like it," he said. "Most of Tryon Palace's decorations were original, too, in the sense that they weren't copied, but they were all based on historical research that indicated that similar decorations would have been traditional at Tryon Palace during its earliest years.

"Naturally, there is no such comparable information on the kinds of decorations the servants might have had, so we had to use logic and make our best guess. That's why the servants' decorations are probably the most satisfying to me," Wheeler said.

Wheeler put the servants' decorations together himself, but for the other decorations, he and Clifton C. West of Trenton assembled them with 90 volunteers from area

garden clubs. About 100 volunteer women drawn from the same garden clubs as last year are expected to help again in 1980. The clubs are the Officers Wives Garden Club, Neuse Forest Garden Club, New Barn Garden Club, River Bend Garden Club and Craven County Extension Service.

"There's no way that we could have decorated the 40-room Palace and four other historic homes in the complex without them. The fruits in the first arrangements would have been decaying before we could have finished the last ones," Wheeler acknowledged.

Even so, it represented a lot of work for Wheeler, West and members of the Tryon Palace Commission.

"It was worth it to see the looks on the faces of the people as they came through," Wheeler said. "And they must

have liked it, because the word got around and 12,000 people came through before it was over."

The 1980 season for the 18th century Christmas celebration at Tryon Palace will run through Dec. 28. The complex is closed on Mondays and Dec. 24-26. Tickets for the Christmas tour only, either daytime or by candlelight, are \$3 for adults, \$1 for children. Candlelight tours are scheduled for Dec. 6, 7, 13, and 14.

The tours include the decorated portions only of Tryon Palace and five historic residences, including the Jones House and Commission House, which are rarely open to the public.

Regular tours of the entire complex are \$4 for adults and \$1.50 for children and visitors will also get the decorated portions of the Jones and Commission Houses as a Christmas bonus.

Medicare offers help

Some patients who no longer need all the services that hospitals provide, but who still need daily skilled nursing or rehabilitation services as inpatients can get help from Medicare for the costs of care in a skilled nursing facility.

Medicare hospital insurance can help pay for follow-up care in a skilled nursing facility that takes part in Medicare when certain conditions are met.

Facilities taking part in Medicare are staffed and equipped to furnish skilled nursing care, rehabilitation services, and other related health services.

These facilities are required to meet certain health, safety, and professional standards and must follow written policies concerning the rights of patients.

People can call the Elizabeth City Social Security

office to find out if a particular skilled nursing facility takes part in Medicare.

When Medicare can pay for this care, covered services include semi-private room and all meals, regular nursing services, rehabilitation services, drugs furnished by the facility, and use of appliances and equipment furnished by the facility.



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