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Fulton To Head Merged Groups

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

W. S. (Corky) Fulton 111 is president of the merged Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association.

The young downtown businessman was elected by his fellow directors at a luncheon meeting Tuesday at the KM Country Club.

Taking office with him, also elected by the directors, are Lyn Cheshire, president-elect (a title change for first vice president); Jim Dickey, second vice president; and Bill Grisson, secretary-treasurer.

The new board of directors for the merged organizations was elected by mail ballots sent to the general membership of both groups during recent weeks.

An even dozen men were nominated and elected to fill the director positions for the coming year. In groups of four, these directors will serve terms through 1976, 77 and 78.

Directors in the first group include Lyn Cheshire, Ragan Harper, Charles Mauney and Max Mayhue. The second group includes Charles Alexander, Bob Kingery, Bill Grisson and Ronnie Plummer. And the third group, Glee Bridges, Jim Dickey, Corky Fulton and Euliss Freeman.

The immediate past-presidents are Carl DeVane and Mickey Bell, who were prior to the merger presidents of the chamber and merchants, respectively.

The mail ballots also approved a new set of bylaws drawn to govern the merged organizations.

President Fulton's first job was to appoint various committees designated under the new bylaws. On the finance committee are Dickey, Plummer and Kingery. Fulton requested them to draw a new dues structure for the merged membership. Membership committee appointees are Grisson, Bridges and Cheshire; industrial - Mauney, Kingery and Dickey; merchants - Bridges, Harper and Mayhue; governmental - Cheshire, Mauney and Alexander; and projects - Freeman, Plummer and Alexander.

In other action Ronnie Plummer was given the job of contacting Blue Cross-Blue Shield Insurance Co. in Shelby about continued hospitalization coverage for members of the merged organizations.

Until the merger the merchants association provided blanket coverage for members.

-- Dr. Frank Sincox reported that the city commissioners now have the completed water rate study and have promised action on it at the Apr. 14 board meeting.

-- Carl DeVane reported the first meeting, for general discussion on a method of approach, of the ward equalization committee will be held Apr. 14 at 7 p. m. in the Grace United Methodist Church fellowship hall. It will be in

conjunction with the Kings Mountain Elections Board.

DeVane also reported that he appeared before the last county commissioner meeting in Shelby to request funds to finance a parttime executive for the Kings Mountain Chamber-Merchants group. The commissioners allocated \$2,000 for this and it has been deposited to the chamber bank account.

-- Set a rate of \$5 per ticket for the annual banquet at the Kings Mountain Country Club Mon., Apr. 21 at 7:30 p. m.

Invited to attend the function are the mayor, commissioners, Shelby Chamber officers, county commissioners and presidents of local civic clubs.

Guest speaker for the banquet will be Rev. Russell Fitts, pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church.

-- Fulton appointed himself, Cheshire and Tom McIntyre to work with local merchants in organizing a promotion sale among merchants to coincide with the Apr. 26-27 performances of "Carousel" at Barnes Auditorium.

Ricky Dale Peterson

Suicide Ruled In Teenager's Death

The death of Ricky Dale Peterson Tuesday night has been ruled suicide by Bennett Masters, assistant county coroner.

The 16-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Peterson, 211 Parker St., apparently hanged himself about 10 p. m. Tuesday in his room, Masters reported.

"He was discovered by his older brother, Kenny, about 11 p. m.," Masters told The Mirror-Herald. "The Kings Mountain Rescue Squad was called and rushed the youth to the hospital, but he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Described as quiet, not outgoing by his parents, Ricky had not shown any signs, also according to the parents, of thinking about such intentions.

Mrs. J. C. Atkinson, secretary at Kings Mountain Junior High where Ricky attended ninth grade classes, commented, "He was pleasant, well-liked and always showed concern over his school work. If he thought he was not doing as well as he should in a class he would ask the teacher for additional work."

Mrs. Atkinson said the news of Ricky Peterson's death came as a great shock to students and administrators, alike, at the junior high Wednesday morning.

Masters said a thorough investigation disclosed no suicide note or any indication from the youth as to why he had taken his life.

"The youth," according to the assistant coroner, "apparently placed his belt about his neck, placed the other end over the top of the door, closed the door and just sat down."

"We do not have any idea why this happened," Masters said.

Tuesday night's incident is the second in a week recorded in Kings Mountain. Last Wednesday James Pressley McCree, a 24-year old textile worker, was found in his car, dead of a single bullet wound in the chest. Masters ruled suicide also in McCree's death.

Judge Guest At Club

Don Ramseur, newly appointed 27th Judicial District judge, was the speaker at Tuesday night's Kings Mountain Lions Club meeting at the country club.

A native of the Kings Mountain area, Judge Ramseur has been living and practicing law in Gastonia for several years.

Lion George Thomasson arranged the program. Thomasson is a Kings Mountain attorney.

Lions were told Tuesday to pick up their supplies of brooms for the coming sale Tues., Apr. 22. On that evening the club will meet for dinner, then will cover the city selling products made by the blind.

Members were also reminded that the May 13 meeting will include election of new officers for the year. On May 27 the club will host ladies night. The club meets the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7 p. m. at the Kings Mountain Country Club.



Photo By Tom McIntyre

NEW OFFICERS - At Tuesday's luncheon meeting of the merged Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association board of directors new officers were elected. Left to right, W. S. (Corky) Fulton 111, president; Lyn Cheshire, president-elect; Jim Dickey, second vice president; and Bill Grisson, secretary-treasurer. All four are directors elected by mail ballots to the general memberships of both organizations.

'Economy Big Problem In Education' - Westmoreland

The state of the economy is one of the biggest problems facing public education today, said Dean Westmoreland, president-elect of the North Carolina Association of Educators.

Schools are the last place where money is applied and the first place it is taken away," he said. "Funding education is the largest single task of the state... yet the nature of the General Assembly now is to cut funds from education. This is one crisis the NCAE will have to overcome."

Westmoreland, a teacher of world history and religion at Kings Mountain High School, will be installed as president of the NCAE April 11 in Greensboro. He has been vice president for the past year. The NCAE has about 50,000 members including superintendents, assistant superintendents, supervisors, principals and teachers, he said. "The purpose is to better the educational opportunities of all children in the state... by working with appropriating bodies which provide funds for education and by publishing information on education," he said.

Westmoreland said he hopes the NCAE will take a stand during the coming year "on accountability for the money spent on education. I don't think people should hold the teachers accountable alone. My feeling is that the home, parents, community and neighborhood should also be involved in accountability."

Kiwanis Show Features Youth

The 18th annual Kings Mountain Kiwanis Talent Shows will be presented at B. N. Barnes Auditorium Apr. 17 and 24 at 7:30 p. m.

On Apr. 17 representatives from kindergarten through fifth grades from the KM District's five elementary schools will present their talent to judges and the public.

Don Parker, Kiwanian, said each representative (15) will be presented an award certificate for their participation. There will be no overall winners selected among these contestants.

On Apr. 24 Central, Junior and Senior High students will compete before judges and the public. One trophy will be presented to the winner from Central's sixth and seventh grade entries. One trophy will be presented to the winner from the junior high eighth and

and the appropriating bodies, too.

"And we will take a stand on the various philosophies of learning. I lean more to the traditional method of education in which there is a degree of discipline and guidance and direction from the teachers... as opposed to the more modern idea of less discipline and letting students do their own thing. I believe we should have reasonable goals and reasonable structure in order to teach children. We have to find some answers to the modern idea of weak discipline and limited curriculum."

Westmoreland noted, too, that NCAE should emphasize "increased enforcement of the code of ethics of educational professionals. There's just too little said about it now. It needs to be emphasized regularly."

He said he hopes the association will try to "do

March Planned For Next Fall

A re-enactment of the march of the "Overmountain Men" from Tennessee to the Battle of Kings Mountain in 1780 is being planned for next fall and Cleveland County Historical Association President Wyan Washburn says he hopes Clevelanders will be included.

He said Cleveland County is

something about the overburdening of teachers with paperwork that robs them of time from their students."

Carowinds PR

Man At Rotary

Thomas J. Olds, public relations coordinator for Carowinds, will speak to the Kings Mountain Rotary Club today at noon.

A former newspaper reporter-photographer and industrial technical writer, Olds is a 1963 graduate of Ohio University where he received a BS degree in journalism.

Olds entered the theme park industry four years ago in Ohio and was transferred to Carowinds in January.

Rotary meets at the Kings Mountain Country Club Thursdays. Joe Smith arranged today's program.

not yet included in the actual march planned during the Bicentennial year and discussed at a meeting last Thursday in Morganton by about 50 people from the two Carolinas and Tennessee and presided over by Robert B. Byrd, president of the Burke County Historical Association.

Dr. Washburn, unable to attend the initial meeting, said the notice stated that although Cleveland County was invited to attend the meeting, the county wasn't included in the actual march project since the "Overmountain Men" didn't come through the area.

Dr. Washburn said he planned to write Rip Collins of Boone, grand marshal for the event, about how much involvement Cleveland County ought to have.

Dr. Washburn said he had always heard that scouting parties came through this area and Bob Moss, history professor at Limestone college, concurs. Mr. Moss, working on a map of the march, said that although the main body of the "Overmountain Men" did not pass through the Cleveland County area, a group enroute to join them near Cowpens, S. C. did march through the upper section in the vicinity of Flint Hill.

The length of the march averages about 150 miles to 180 miles, Moss said, who made the trip on foot several years ago in 13 days and described it as "pretty rough."

Climbing For Cash



Last Saturday Rev. R. J. Hannagan became "The Daring Young Man On The..." radio station tower." In order to raise funds for building a new sanctuary at his church, Foursquare Gospel, Rev. Hannagan agreed to climb a foot on WKMT's tower for every \$10 donated. The results were a little disappointing because he only raised \$95 in the climb. The balance of the total \$200 raised came from the sale of baked goodies by church women. Shooting for \$2,000, Rev. Hannagan said the church women will continue to sponsor bake sales, but indicated his climbing days might be over. He did go to the 100 foot level just to make it more interesting Saturday. His church has plans for a 40x 80 ft. sanctuary at an estimated cost of \$60,000.

Photos By Gary Stewart

