



Winter 2009

Volume 2, Issue 4

## FALL INTO THE ARTS

### A Successful Festival!

On Saturday, October 3, 2009 the Longleaf Arts and Crafts Guild presented the annual Fall Arts Festival, Art at the Depot, held in conjunction with the Wallace Chamber of Commerce and the Methodist Church. Over eight artists participated in the festival and they are the reason for and main draw to this event. Everything from pottery to glassware and wood-carving to textiles was represented. In addition to the wonderful crafts people displaying their art, there was entertainment provided by bluegrass and mariachi bands. Civil war re-enactors pitched tents and demonstrated their mustering skills. The train room was open and as always, a great draw, as was the speeder. Pumpkin decorating for the children yielded many creative designs, and thanks to our volunteers for assisting the children in their efforts. Cindy

Barrow organized a wonderful rosemary wreath making table with herbs harvested from her garden and Bobbi Izzo was in charge of the canteen featuring coffee and muffins and later, hotdogs, chips and soda (at a

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Pumpkin Decorating at the Festival

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#### • Mission Statement

- The Longleaf Arts and Crafts Guild celebrates and brings together independent craftspeople and artists for the purpose of marketing, conservation, and education.

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR LOCAL ARTIST

We have decided to feature **Harriet Farris** in Meet the Artist this issue because, while she will disavow the label of artist, she, with Theresa Elias, has been responsible in large part for the establishment and management of Longleaf Arts & Crafts Guild. In addition,

the Farris's were actively involved with the saving and restoration of the Wallace Depot. Harriet, and her husband, Charlie, (our respected mayor) are the proprietors of Farris's, Main Street's treasure trove of design and accessories.

I asked Harriet to give us the background of the restoration of the Wallace Train Depot and the founding of Longleaf Arts & Crafts Guild. The idea of an arts guild, in fact, preceded the saving of the depot. In her words, "First, Theresa Elias came

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## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR LOCAL ARTIST

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knocking at my door. Around 1995 Theresa came into our store to talk to me about a dream she had of forming an artist guild in Wallace. I agreed with her that her vision was wonderful and that a guild would be perfect for our community. I was just a little baffled about where it would be and who would pay for it. She wanted the guild to be a regional one and to be modeled after the Highlands Arts and Crafts Guild located in the North Carolina mountains. We began the process of formulating our plan and putting it into action. At the time, the Duplin County Arts Council was active in the county so we asked the director to meet with us so we could get her input. She partnered with us to have a dance troupe from Greensboro come to perform a rail dance program for our kick-off event to save the depot. I think the (Duplin County Arts) Council would have

to appreciate the arts at an early age. She continues, "Sometimes I think that in retirement an artist brush might feel comfortable in my hand, but only if an instructor is nearby."

In reply to the question of what might be the most significant event in her lifetime association with the arts, Harriet said that she considers that the nature of her 36 year old design business, Farrior's, to be 'somewhat artsy'. Farrior's owners and employees are fortunate to deal with beautiful objects and are able to be creative in design work for their clients. But the most significant thing for sure, had to be the opening of the Longleaf Arts & Crafts Guild gallery in the restored depot. "Just to pull this off was a major undertaking for all of us on the Board. It took strong leadership and we have had that in Theresa Elias."

Harriet Farrior has a full slate of

done more, but it soon folded after the state money that had kept it going ran out. Theresa and I continued meeting and encouraging people to believe in the project. At the turn of the century a "Save the Depot" committee was appointed by the town fathers. Theresa and I were invited to be members. The door really opened for us when the Wallace Town Council agreed to let our art guild have some space in the soon-to-be restored depot. Next, we selected a number of art lovers to be on our board. We named our organization "Longleaf Arts and Crafts Guild" and soon started our hunt for artists to show in the gallery. The Board met regularly and had the LACG up and ready to operate from the beautiful gallery space when the depot renovation was completed on November 11, 2007."

Having heard that Harriet had

business and volunteer activities.

She serves on several boards and committees and I wondered how she manages to juggle the demands of all of these obligations. "I am fortunate in the business that my husband and I run to have a good staff. They help make it possible for me to involve myself in civic organizations and in work at my church. Each and every day I try to make sure I do three things . . . . say a prayer, take my vitamins and get 8 hours of sleep. These things work together to give me energy, strength and blessings." Among her other extracurricular duties, Harriet is the Volunteer Coordinator for LACG so I asked her about that. "I am always happy to have those interested in helping contact me." The Board asks each volunteer to commit to one 3 ½ hour shift per month. The gallery is open Thursday and Friday 10:00 – 5:00 and Saturday 10:00 – 1:30 (currently a total of 5 shifts per week). Once a

been a student of Margaret Cooper, a respected local artist from Rose Hill, I wondered if she had time to actively pursue her art. She responded that she considers herself a "lover of the arts, not an artist". Harriet did take lessons in junior high and high school as well as a few college art courses and credits Mrs. Cooper with instilling in her an awareness of nature, form and color. She continued that she has always appreciated things of beauty and in a charming anecdote remembers "As a child, nothing excited me more than to go out to our yard and pick anything that I thought would make a pretty arrangement to give to my mother. She would make me feel as if my bouquet of colorful weeds and bird feathers was as refined as any florist delivery." Her mother, aunt and several teachers encouraged her

volunteer signs up he or she is trained by a seasoned volunteer and once they feel a comfort level they're assigned a convenient time to work in the shop. The Guild has an enthusiastic group of volunteers working now but there is always a need for more help. Anyone interested in joining the group of volunteers may call Harriet at work (285-2299 or 285-2110), or e-mail her at [harriet@farriors.com](mailto:harriet@farriors.com).

The Longleaf Arts and Crafts Guild has indeed been fortunate to have Mrs. Farrior on its' Board and involved since the beginning. While it may be true that Harriet does not *consider* herself an artist, she certainly has produced a most creative endeavor with her unflagging devotion to Guild - and we thank her very much indeed.

## THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEERS & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Gallery could not operate without the help of the many volunteers who give their time to keep the shop open. In appreciation of their efforts, Harriet Farrow, the Guild's Volunteer Coordinator, hosted a wonderful thank you dinner party and meeting at her Wallace home on Monday, September 21, 2009 from 5 – 7. After a brief introduction and grace, volunteers were treated to a delicious buffet supper. Harriet served chicken almandine, salads, baked fruit, and an assortment of tempting desserts.

Volunteers socialized and visited before the business of creating a new quarterly calendar. Thank you to Harriet for her generosity and hospitality. She holds the volunteers together, and makes the running of the guild possible. ~TBE~

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fabulous bargain price). Again our generous volunteers assisted with this booth, manning both the hotdog cooker and the hungry crowds with aplomb. This event **could not** have been held without the help of all the volunteers, whom we thank most heartily. We would like to also thank Heather McDougall and Mazie Furness for helping out the Guild during this event.

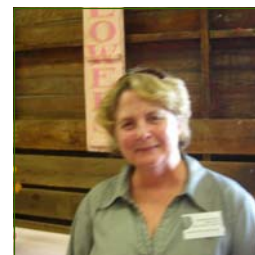
This is the first year that we have included some fund raising events at the festival and we were able to turn a small profit, income which is necessary to keep our guild operating. For the first time also, the guild was able to present for purchase, logo'd merchandise in the form of aprons and tote bags. Bags and aprons continue to be for sale in the gallery and make great gifts.

This was a fun Fall event and we look forward to next year's, even bigger and better!



## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

*Theresa Brooks Elias*



January 3, 2010

Dear Artists, Volunteers, and Patron Members,

Happy New Year! I hope this letter finds you in a warm place with hopeful hearts for 2010. I enjoyed my Christmas holiday with family and friends. There was lots of cooking involved and laughter and time together; for all of that I am grateful. Tomorrow will bring an early start on a very cold morning as I head back out to teach art to children.

The Longleaf Arts & Crafts Guild has held its' own this past year, even in a crummy economy. Thanks to all of you who make and create beautiful things to share with our community and visitors who pass through Wallace and visit the depot. Also, thanks to the many volunteers that keep the guild open and the patrons that believe in what we are doing to raise awareness of the arts and a community art place. I also want to express gratitude to Lou Powell at the Wallace Chamber of Commerce for the many little and big things she does as our depot neighbor. Last but not least, we would not have a guild home without the generosity of the Town of Wallace and the Wallace Depot Commission; many thanks to all those involved.

There are a few reminders for this new "LACG Year, 2010." First, the guild is interested in providing classes for children and adults. You may contact me or any board member to set up a date and find out the procedure for classes. Second, seasonal art and crafts need to be removed from the guild and replaced with updated work. There are rafter hooks available for hanging pieces. Third, ideas for this year's get-togethers, Art @ The Depot, and other cultural events will be appreciated and discussed at a board meeting. Lastly, our newsletter has a calendar for cultural events. You may send your ideas or suggestions to me, Theresa Brooks Elias, (910) 289-0979, or by e-mail:

[tbeliasart@hotmail.com](mailto:tbeliasart@hotmail.com)

[telias@sampson.k12.nc.us](mailto:telias@sampson.k12.nc.us)

The Longleaf Arts & Crafts Guild would not be possible without all involved. Thanks. Special thanks to the LACG Board members for all they did to organize and "pull off" Art @ The Depot in October of last year. Special thanks to Marsha Silberhorn and her many hours as our QuickBooks operator and newsletter editor. Many thanks to Harriet Farrior; her amazing organizing skills keep our volunteers on task. Her culinary skills made the volunteer appreciation dinner a wonderful gathering.

All of you truly have the hearts of volunteers. Have a happy and creative New Year!

Sincerely,

Theresa B. Elias

## VOLUNTEER & MEMBERS CORNER

### First 2010 Volunteer Meeting

All volunteers are invited to a scheduling meeting to be held in the conference room at the Wallace Depot at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 5. Dinner to follow at the Mad Boar (Dutch Treat).

If you are unable to attend the meeting you can still contact Harriet to get a slot on the calendar. If you have a preference she will fill it unless someone else already has taken the spot. She's is happy to work with everyone to make it most convenient. That said, it's greatly appreciated to have people able to fill in the empty spots.



Harriet Conducts a Volunteer Meeting

### VOLUNTEER TIP

The sales and QuickBooks user manual is always on the sales counter. If you are unsure how to process a transaction, make a manual ticket and after the customer has left, consult the manual and try to enter the sale online.

### RAFFLE TICKETS

Tickets are still available for the quilt raffle to benefit the Wallace Depot Shed restoration. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from Harriet Fariior.

### APRONS & TOTES FOR SALE

The Longleaf Arts & Crafts Guild now offers longleaf pinecone crafting aprons and tote bags for sale. The aprons are \$28 and the tote bags are \$20. All proceeds go to the guild. Sorry, no member discounts are available for these items.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have a change in your e-mail or other contact information please contact [newsletter@longleafguild.org](mailto:newsletter@longleafguild.org) to update us.

The newsletter is available online at [www.longleafguild.org](http://www.longleafguild.org) and [www.rneighbors.com](http://www.rneighbors.com)

## WANTED

### Donation Items for the Scholarship Tree

Contributions are requested for any handmade item, made or purchased, to be donated to the LACG scholarship "tree". The sale of these items will fund art scholarships for local students. If you would like to contribute an item please bring it to the gallery and fill in a price tag. Instructions will be posted behind the sales desk. Items in any price range will be welcomed.

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LONGBEAF ARTS AND CRAFTS GUILD**

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*The Editor apologizes for the late delivery of this issue.*

# CALENDAR OF ARTS EVENTS JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2010

<b>LRDG Designs and Glassblowing Center</b> 612 Castle Street Wilmington, NC	Daily Glassblowing  910-772-2090 (Jane)	Through 1/30/10	10:00 am – 5:00 pm
<b>Wrightsville Ave. Working Artists Studio</b> Red Tulip Art Gallery, 5401 Wrightsville Ave. Close to Cape Fear Hospital	WAWAS Fourth Friday Crawl  910.452.3844 <a href="http://www.wawaswilmington.com/">www.wawaswilmington.com/</a>	Friday, 1/29/10	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
<b>2010 Wilmington Garden Show</b> CFCC Schwartz Center 411 North Front Street Wilmington, NC 28401	Spring Comes Early To Wilmington The 2010 Garden Show!  910-798-7670 <a href="http://gardeningnhc.org/">http://gardeningnhc.org/</a>	Saturday, 2/13/10 Sunday, 2/14/10  \$7.00	9:00 am - 5:00 pm 11:00 am – 4:00 pm
<b>Wallace 100 Committee</b> Celtic Court, Mad Boar Restaurant 111 River Village Place Wallace, NC 28466	Annual Meeting & Harry Carlton Award Presentation  <a href="http://www.wallacechamberofcommerce.com/">http://www.wallacechamberofcommerce.com/</a>	Tuesday, 1/12/10	6:30 pm  \$30
<b>All County Arts Festival</b> Wallace-Rose Hill High School 602 High School Road Teachey, NC	Student Art Show  Concert  910-285-7501	Wednesday 3/24/10 Thursday 3/25/10	7:00 pm
<b>Wallace Revitalization Association</b> Thelma Dingus Bryant Library 409 W. Main Street Wallace, NC	Annual Meeting Entertainment, Magician	Monday, 2/22/10	7:00 pm  \$25 Membership requested but not required

Please submit future cultural events for publication to [newsletter@longleafguild.org](mailto:newsletter@longleafguild.org)