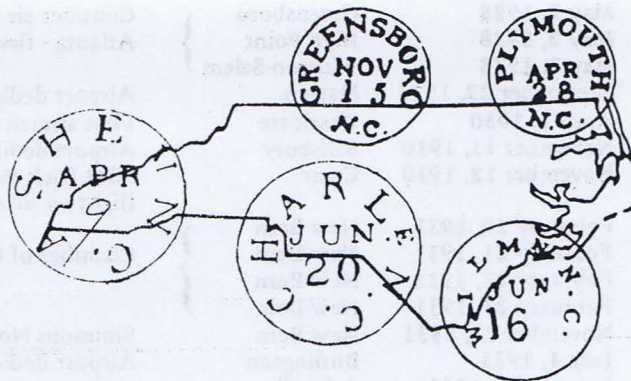


NORTH CAROLINA

POSTAL HISTORY

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



No. 4 (Vol 2 No 1)

FEBRUARY 1983

MEETING NOTICE

The Society will hold a business meeting at 12:30 on February 26 at the W. Kerr Scott Building on the North Carolina Fairgrounds in Raleigh. The meeting is in conjunction with a stamp and coin show. Business will include election of Board of Directors. Discussion of our 1983 Annual Meeting, and a proposed North Carolina Postal History Award. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The following have been nominated to serve as Board of Directors for NCPHS. Additional nominations should be mailed to Harvey Tilles. Election will take place at the February 26th meeting in Raleigh.

Term expiring 1985

Tony L. Crumbley - Charlotte
Garland Stout - Greensboro
Vernon Stroupe, Jr. - Asheville
Ruth Wetmore - Laurinburg

Term expiring 1984

Pierre Oldham - Asheboro
John Allen - Chapel Hill
Steve Jaronski - Raleigh
Harvey Tilles - High Point

Term expiring 1983

Bob Bellamy - Washington
Edgar Seymour - Atlantic
Phil Wall - Greensboro
James Harris - Wilmington

HISTORY OF THE AIR MAIL SERVICE IN NORTH CAROLINA by Tony L. Crumbley

There are many interesting areas of North Carolina Postal History which are awaiting the collector to be thoroughly researched and written up. One such area is the history of airmail service in North Carolina. The state is rich with interesting historic events taking place through the inauguration of air mail service here.

The first airmail activity in the state took place in Wilmington, N.C. on January 1 and 2, 1912. After being cancelled on January 1 because of bad weather, Walter Brookins opened the Highwood Park Aviation Meet on January 2 by flying 1,600 cards and letters from Highwood Park to Winter Park Garden, a distance of three miles. This event isn't much by today's standards; however, trying to find one of those 1,600 covers today can be a challenge.

Other exciting events have been documented by the mails, such as Pilot Dick Merrill's crash in 1930 where all the mail was salvaged and shipped from Shelby by train. How many of you have seen Dedication covers from the first sea plane based in Wilmington; 449 covers were posted on May 10, 1940. The following day Beaufort dedicated its sea plane base and posted 46 covers. How many could have survived?

The following is a chronology of the documented events in North Carolina's air mail postal history. If any of you know of additions to this, please let me know.

January 1 - 2, 1912	Wilmington	First N.C. Airmail - 1,600 items carried 3 miles
December 17, 1928	Kitty Hawk	25th anniversary of first flight - 27,400 items
October 14, 1927	Greensboro	U.S. Goodwill Tour of Charles Lindberg
October 14, 1927	Winston-Salem	Airport dedication and Lindberg visit

May 2, 1928	Greensboro	}	Contract air mail route No. 19 New York to
May 2, 1928	High Point		Atlanta - first flights - North and South flights
May 2, 1928	Winston-Salem		
September 22, 1928	Marion		Airport dedication - 1,000 covers
April 1, 1930	Charlotte		First airmail service from Charlotte - Cam No. 19
November 11, 1930	Salisbury		Airport dedication - 2,000 covers
November 12, 1930	Casar		Pilot Dick Merrill crashed - Atlanta - Newark flight - 4 marked covers known
February 20, 1931	New Bern	}	
February 21, 1931	New Bern		Chamber of Commerce Airport dedication - 218 covers
February 22, 1931	New Bern		
February 23, 1931	New Bern		
November 22, 1931	New Bern		Simmons Nott Airport dedication
July 4, 1933	Burlington		Airport dedication - 350-400 covers
January 29, 1934	Asheville		
February 19, 1934	Charlotte	}	
February 19, 1934	Greensboro		
February 19, 1934	High Point		Early in 1934 - President Roosevelt cancelled all
February 19, 1934	Raleigh		air mail contracts subject to re-bidding. With only
February 19, 1934	Winston-Salem		a few days notice the Army started flying the
February 20, 1934	Charlotte		mail. The New York to Miami route stopped in
February 20, 1934	Raleigh		these cities. February 19 was first north bound
February 20, 1934	Greensboro		flight and February 20 was first south bound flight.
February 20, 1934	High Point		
February 20, 1934	Winston-Point		
May 30, 1934	Wilmington		Airport re-dedication - 4,000 covers
October 4, 1934	Raleigh		Airport dedication - 505-555 covers
April 2, 1935	Winston-Salem		First direct airmail flight from Winston-Salem
April 13, 1935	Winston-Salem		Airport re-dedication - 850 covers
June 21, 1935	Rocky Mount		Airport dedication
May 17, 1937	Charlotte		Municipal Airport dedication
May 28 - 29, 1937	Greensboro		Airport dedication
May 28 - 29, 1937	High Point		Airport dedication - 102 covers
October 12, 1937	Kitty Hawk		N.C. Airmail Week - special flight - Kitty Hawk to Raleigh
November 12, 1937	Pinehurst		Airport dedication
November 12, 1937	Southern Pines		Airport dedication
May 19, 1938	Kitty Hawk		20th Anniversary of Inauguration of regular airmail-numerous cities issued cachets
May 10, 1940	Wilmington		Sea plane base dedication - 449 covers
May 11, 1940	Beaufort		Sea plane base dedication - 46 covers
September 7, 1940	Hickory		Airport dedication - 50 covers
October 17, 1940	Elizabeth City		U.S. Coast Guard air station dedication - 1,500 covers
November 1, 1940	Greensboro	}	
November 1, 1940	Raleigh		Inaugural service Norfolk-Knoxville
November 1, 1940	Rocky Mount		Airmail Route No. 51
November 2, 1940	Greensboro		
November 8, 1940	Hickory		Hickory was added to airmail flight No. 51
April 21, 1941	Charlotte		Airport dedication - 1,500 covers
June 8, 1941	Gastonia		Airport dedication - 11 covers
June 27-28, 1941	Asheville		Asheville added to airmail route No. 51
April 1, 1942	Elizabeth City		U.S. Naval dirigible base dedication - 50 covers
January 1, 1944	Charlotte		Cross-route service Charlotte-Raleigh-A.M No. 5 & CAM 19
January 1, 1944	Raleigh/Durham		Direct service to Savannah - airmail route No. 19
June 2, 1945	Wilmington		Carl Peiffer Field - dedication - 257 covers
November 15, 1945	Charlotte		Charlotte added to airmail route No. 6
November 15-16, 1945	Elizabeth City		Elizabeth City added to airmail route No. 51
November 15, 1945	Greensboro	}	
November 15, 1945	High Point		Airmail route No. 6 revised to include service from N.C.
November 15, 1945	Winston-Salem		cities to Detroit
December 1, 1945	Asheville		Extension of route No. 54 through Asheville to Miami
December 16, 1945	Wilmington		Wilmington added to airmail route No. 31
March 21, 1946	New Bern		Addition of New Bern to airmail route No. 19
August 19, 1946	Charlotte		Direct service - Charlotte - Charleston - route No. 6
October 6, 1946	Gastonia		Airport dedication - 200 covers
June 4, 1947	Albemarle		Airport dedication
June 4, 1947	Winston-Salem		Winston-Salem added to airmail route No. 51
July 4, 1947	Laurinburg-Maxton		Airport dedication - 150 covers
July 9, 1947	Rocky Mount		Direct service Richmond - Rocky Mount route No. 51

August 3, 1947	Concord	Airport dedication - 126 covers
August 31, 1947	Mount Holly	Airport dedication - 115 covers
November 16, 1947	Kinston	Airport dedication - 135 covers
December 5 1947	Charlotte	Charlotte added to airmail route No. 51
February 20, 1948	Asheville	Inaugural service Cincinnati - Wilmington N.C. Airmail route No. 87 by Piedmont Airlines
February 20, 1948	Charlotte	
February 20, 1948	Wilmington	
February 25, 1948	Aberdeen	
February 25, 1948	Pinehurst	
February 25, 1948	Southern Pines	Inaugural service of Louisville - Newbern segment of airmail route No. 87
March 6, 1948	Durham	
March 6, 1948	Goldsboro	
March 6, 1948	Greensboro	
March 6, 1948	High Point	
March 6, 1948	New Bern	
March 6, 1948	Raleigh	
March 6, 1948	Winston-Salem	
March 8, 1948	Durham	
March 8, 1948	Greensboro	
March 8, 1948	High Point	Inaugural service of Spur from Wilmington - Raleigh/ Durham of airmail route No. 87
March 8, 1948	Raleigh	
March 8, 1948	Winston-Salem	
April 16, 1948	Durham	
April 16, 1948	Wilmington	
April 16, 1948	Raleigh	Inaugural service of Roanoke - Wilmington spur of airmail route No. 87
April 23, 1948	Durham	
April 23, 1948	Greensboro	
April 23, 1948	High Point	
April 23, 1948	Raleigh	
April 23, 1948	Wilmington	Extension of airmail route No. 87 from Newbern to Morehead City.
May 5, 1948	New Bern	
May 6, 1948	Morehead City	
May 13, 1948	Asheville	Extension to Asheville and Atlanta, GA of No. 55
August 5, 1948	Charlotte	
September 25, 1948	Fayetteville	Addition of Fayetteville to airmail route No. 87
August 25, 1952	Hickory	Addition of Hickory to airmail route No. 87
September 10, 1952	Kingston	Addition of Kingston to airmail route No. 87
October 15, 1954	Charlotte	Established airport mail facility with designated cancellation
April 1, 1959	Charlotte	Non-stop service - Charlotte-Chicago-airmail route No. 6
January 15, 1961	Asheville	Airport dedication - 125 covers
March 30, 1961	Elizabeth City	Addition of Elizabeth City to route No. 87
March 30, 1961	Rocky Mount	Addition of Rocky Mount to route No. 87
June 25, 1962	Asheville	Addition of Asheville-Atlanta to airmail route No. 87
June 25, 1962	Fayetteville	Addition of Fayetteville to Myrtle Beach No. 87
June 25, 1962	Goldsboro	Addition of Goldsboro-Raleigh/Durham to airmail route No. 87
November 30, 1962	Charlotte	Airport dedication
December 17, 1963	Kill Devil Hill/Kitty	
	Kitty Hawk	Addition of Asheville - Memphis to airmail route No. 87
February 2, 1968	Asheville	
March 27, 1968	Jackson/Rich Square/Windsor Winton	Tri-County Airport dedication - 218 covers total cancelled from each city
June 2, 1968	Goldsboro	Airport dedication
August 18, 1968	Lenoir/Morganton	Morganton-Lenoir Airport dedication
March 16, 1970	Rocky Mount/ Wilson	Rocky Mount - Wilson Airport - formal opening - 215 covers
May 31, 1970	Rocky Mount/ Wilson	Rocky Mount - Wilson Airport dedication - 160 covers
June 15, 1970	Durham	Addition of Greensboro/Highpoint/Winston Salem and Raleigh/Durham to route No. 54
June 15, 1970	Greensboro	
June 15, 1970	High Point	
June 15, 1970	Raleigh	
June 15, 1970	Winston-Salem	
February 15, 1971	Jacksonville/ Camp Lejeune	Addition of mail service to Camp Lejeune by airmail route No. 87
May 6, 1973	Elkin	Airport dedication - 50 covers
May 21 - 22, 1977	Asheville	Ashepex Station - 50th anniversary Lindberg flight
October 19, 1977	Charlotte	50th anniversary, Lindberg flight