

Richmond County Historical Society

June 2017 Newsletter

'Those who don't remember their ancestors don't deserve to be remembered!'

John Wilkes Booth

An early 'Terrorist' in America

In context to what is occurring in the world today with terrorists murdering innocent people, comes a speaker June 19 to the Richmond County Historical Society meeting at 7 p.m. at Rockingham City Hall to talk about the infamous John Wilkes Booth.

Dr. John Stevenson, Society president, announces that Bryon Eugene Brady will be speaking about Booth, the assassin of President Abraham Lincoln.

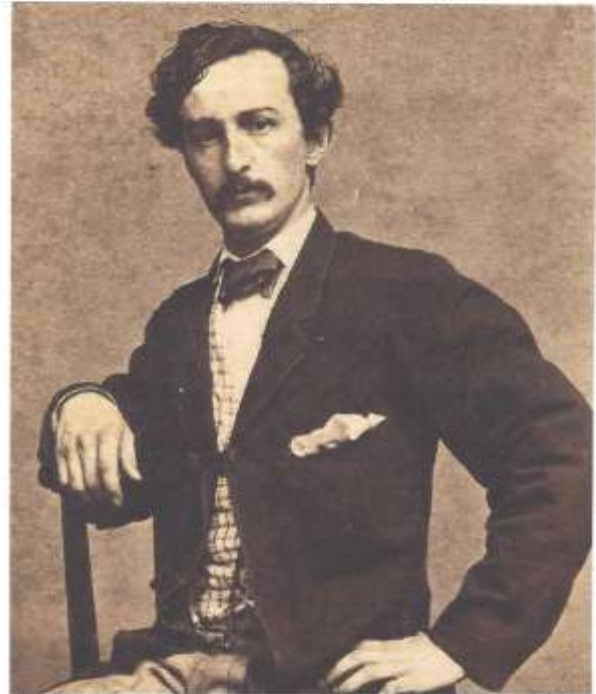
On April 14, 1865, Booth shot Lincoln in the back of the head while the President was attending a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.

Booth was an actor, but not involved in the play. He was vehement in his denunciation of President Lincoln and strongly opposed the abolition of slavery.

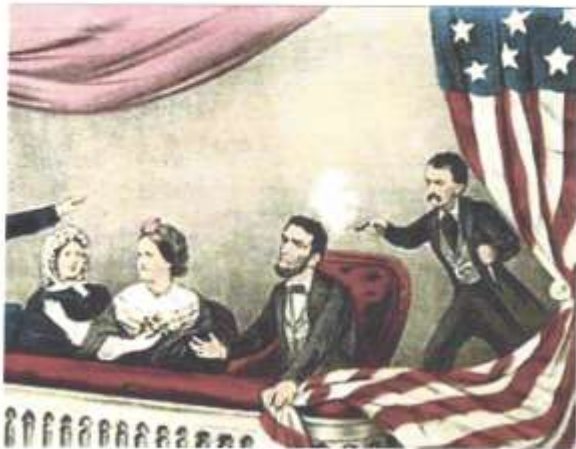
Lincoln died of his wound the following day.

Booth escaped and was chased to a barn in Virginia which was set on fire. A soldier shot him believing he was aiming a gun at fellow soldiers. He died later of his wound.

Like so many terrorists today, Booth did not act alone. He was part of a conspiracy. Other related



John Wilkes Booth
President Lincoln's assassin



Booth shoots President Lincoln in the head from behind at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., April 14, 1865.

assassination attempts that day failed.

In the end, eight other conspirators or suspects were tried, and convicted and four were hanged.

Like many terrorists today, Booth was young, only 26.

Even today, we are struggling to comprehend what brings people to do such evil deeds.

One motivation was said to be that the conspirators wanted to disrupt the United States Government.

It all sounds too familiar to what has been and is going on in the world today.

We look forward to what message Brady will bring us this month.

There will be no meeting in July and no newsletter.

Book Distributions

Jimmy Pippin, Richmond County Historical Society vice president, this year has undertaken to deliver 132 Society history books to 44 different school classroom and educational facilities.

He presented sets of "No Ordinary Lives", "the Architectural History of Richmond County" and "Mixed Blessings" to each location.

After several trips, he delivered 462 pounds of books.

Neal Cadieu donated 11 "Architectural History" books to the Rankin Museum along with five NOL and four Blessings books.

May MacCallum and Pat Franklin took a 3-book set to the Anson County Library and another set to the Anson County Historical Society. They plan to deliver sets to the Bennettsville Public Library and Cheraw Public Library.

That would be 158 books so far.

These distributions are spreading the word about the history of Richmond County and should increase awareness of local heritage. People may even want to visit local sites.

All of the Society's history books are selling now for \$10 each, except for the Camp Mackall book which sells for \$30.

Even so, there are boxes and boxes and boxes of books still in the Carriage House looking for homes.

Pippin's list of sets includes: seven to eighth-grade North Carolina history classes, six to fourth-grade N.C. History classes; four to AIG classes, 11 libraries, six social studies classes and two business classes.

Also included were deliveries to the county schools' social studies consultant, JROTC, a government class and an English class.

Besides public schools, included were Early College at Richmond Community College and Temple Christian School.

Pippin is also working with the social studies specialist to provide the Society's digitized newspapers from 1888 to the present for use in every school. He is also working on a list of Society members who would be able to speak on local history topics for school presentations. Along with that he is compiling a list of former and present residents of the county who became accomplished here and elsewhere which can be used for research topics in schools.



The N.C. Presbyterian Historical Society visited the Bostick School April 21. The youngest member of that Society is shown at the school standing on a millstone. Tours so far this year were also held March 25, April 27 and June 2.

School History Awards

Richmond County Historical Society Student Awards for Excellence in History have been presented to the following:

Richmond County Early College at Richmond Community College – Peggy Kennedy.

Rohan Middle School – Kailey Sailor and Preston Dawkins.

Hamlet Middle School Clark Cox N.C. History Award – Harley Waite and Xavier Toney.

Rockingham Middle School Marshal Bray History Award – Emma Parker, Savanna Harrelson and Carson Jordan.

Ellerbe Middle School Martha Carter-Gail Wilson History Award to be announced.