



Remembering.....
By Ed McBride

Oasis Characters Unit

In May of 1982 I completed the artwork and lettering on the above Chevrolet step van for the Oasis Characters Unit. This vehicle was used to carry all the shriners' makeup gear - as they shared in parades for the crippled and burned children throughout the area. I did another one or two characters later, too.

It was my pleasure to serve a number of years on the Oasis Directors Staff, and the Gourmet Unit, also. A very special occasion for me was the building and signage of a display unit that was shipped to Sacramento, California. We flew out there for a get together of shriners - "competing and demonstrating" new ideas. Our display was "Creating a Shriner," and I had the pleasure of doing all the design and artwork right here in my shop...something that continues to tell our story as we help the crippled and burned children. All the way back to Anson County, too!

Parks and Rec Youth Basketball Registration

Starting November 14th and running through December 16th, Anson County Parks and Recreation will be offering registration for Youth Basketball, Kindergarten through 12th grade, boys and girls.

You may come to Little Park to register, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration will also take place at these schools:

- Monday, December 5th, 3 - 5 p.m. at Peachland-Polkton and Ansonville Elementary Schools
- Wednesday, December 7th, 3 - 5 p.m. at Wadesboro Elementary School Gym and Wadesboro Primary School

The deadline to register is Friday, December 16th. The cost is \$25 per player. For more information call Wanda Chappell at 704-694-5868 or Wendell Small at 704-694-5751.

Tourism Meeting

The Anson Tourism Development Authority will meet today, Wednesday, November 9, at the Lady Bug Restaurant in Wadesboro at noon. The public is invited to attend.

Events

NOVEMBER 9
Veterans Honored
At Wadesboro Elementary School, 1pm. All veterans invited, urged to bring any stories, photos & other memorabilia. Please register by 11/8 at 704-694-9383

Tourism Meeting
Tourism Development Authority meets at noon at Lady Bug Restaurant. Public invited

NOVEMBER 10
PTO Organizational
Meeting at Anson Middle School Auditorium, 6:30pm

Compassionate Friends
Meet 7pm in Training Rm at Pee Dee Electric. Info 704-694-8774

NOVEMBER 11
Veteran's Day
Parade, 10am. Begins at corner of E Martin & N Washington Streets, runs to N Rutherford, ending at Ansonia. Info 704-694-4418 or tward@co.anson.nc.us

Free Concert
By the Army Ground Forces Band's Jazz Guardians, 7pm at Ansonia Theatre

NOVEMBER 13
Vietnam Vets
Honored at special event at Gun Springs Baptist Church, 11am. Dinner after service. All Vietnam vets invited. 704-694-7096

NOVEMBER 14
50+ Club Meets
At Hampton B. Allen Library, 10:30am w/musician Carson Hill. Everyone invited. 704-694-5177

NOVEMBER 15
Memory Screening
Free at Grace Senior Center, 11am-3pm. Info & pre-register at 704-694-6616

NOVEMBER 17
Community Forum
Held by Anson County Schools in Ingram Room at Lockhart-Taylor Center, 6:30pm

NOVEMBER 18
Parade Deadline
To register your float in the Wadesboro Christmas Parade. Contact Chamber of Commerce 704-694-4181 or ansonchamber@windstream.net. Entry forms at www.ansoncounty.org

NOVEMBER 19
Christmas in November
A great opportunity to buy locally made products by area artists & craftsmen, 10am-1pm in Ingram Room at Lockhart-Taylor Center. Sponsored by Arts Council, info 704-694-4950

NOVEMBER 21
Brown Bag Book Club
Meets at noon at Hampton B. Allen Library w/author

Lynette Hall Hampton & potluck lunch. Bring a dish & a friend! 704-694-5177

REMEMBER SENIOR DAY

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Christmas 2011 - Birth of a New Tradition

As the holidays approach, the giant Asian factories are kicking into high gear to provide Americans with monstrous piles of cheaply produced goods -- merchandise that has been produced at the expense of American labor. This year will be different. This year Americans will give the gift of genuine concern for other Americans. There is no longer an excuse that, at gift giving time, nothing can be found that is produced by American hands. Yes there is!

It's time to think outside the box, people. Who says a gift needs to fit in a shirt box, wrapped in Chinese produced wrapping paper? Everyone - yes everyone - gets their hair cut. How about gift certificates from your local American hair salon or barber?

Gym membership? It's appropriate for all ages who are thinking about some health improvement.

Who wouldn't appreciate getting their car detailed? Small, American owned detail shops and car washes would love to sell you a gift certificate or a book of gift certificates.

Are you one of those extravagant givers who think nothing of plonking down the dollars on a Chinese made flat-screen? Perhaps that grateful gift receiver would like his driveway sealed, or lawn mowed for the summer, or driveway plowed all winter, or games at the local golf course.

There are a bazillion owner-run restaurants - all offering gift certificates. And, if your intended isn't the fancy eatery sort, what about a half dozen breakfasts at the local breakfast joint. Remember folks this isn't about big National chains - this is about supporting your home town Americans with their financial lives on the line to keep their doors open.

How many people couldn't use an oil change for their car, truck or motorcycle, done at a shop run by the American working guy?

Thinking about a heartfelt gift for mom? Mom would love the services of a local cleaning lady for a day.

My computer could use a tune-up, and I know I can find some young guy who is struggling to get his repair business up and running.

OK, so you were looking for something more personal. Local craftspeople spin their own wool and knit them into scarves. They make jewelry, and pottery and beautiful wooden boxes.

Plan your holiday outings at local, owner operated restaurants and leave your server a nice tip. And, how about going out to see a play or ballet at your hometown theatre. (Tickets will soon be available for *A Christmas Carol* at the Ansonia Theatre.)

Musicians need love too, so find a venue showcasing local bands. (We have lots of local talent to enjoy and celebrate right here in Anson County.)

Honestly, people, do you really need to buy another ten thousand Chinese lights for the house? When you buy a five dollar string of light, about fifty cents stays in the community. If you have those kinds of bucks to burn, leave the mailman, trash guy or babysitter a nice big tip instead...they deserve it.

You see, Christmas is no longer about draining American pockets so that China can build another glittering city. Christmas is now about caring about US, encouraging American small businesses to keep plugging away to follow their dreams. And, when we care about other Americans, we care about our communities, and the benefits come back to us in ways we couldn't imagine.

This is the new American Christmas tradition.

Senior Citizens Christmas Luncheon

The Annual Senior Citizen Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 8th, beginning at 11 a.m. in the Ingram Room at the Lockhart-Taylor Center. Anyone interested in attending must call Grace Senior Center to register at 704-694-6616.

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