



Anson Majorettes Compete at Florida's Walt Disney World

After their fundraising efforts and arduous practices were complete, the Anson County Majorettes journeyed to Orlando, Florida on March 6 to compete in the Festival Disney Performing Arts competition. This national contest is tough to gain admission into and even tougher to withstand the strict guidelines and adjudicators. But Anson County can be very proud of the girls who represented themselves and their county with the performance of their lives.

The setting, Hollywood Studios, where the girls received a standing ovation from other competitors, spectators and guests following their 10-minute show entitled, "Pop, Rock and Soul," and where they received 2nd place overall and a Superior rating. As a coach I couldn't have asked for a better night. The girls were so close to perfect it was almost heart stopping. Coach Anne

Hyatt said, "After watching the performance I had goose bumps. They were awesome!" The five-day

trip began with the flight to Orlando, something three of the girls had never before experienced. Once the group of 14 landed it was nonstop until the return flight home on March 10.

Three of the girls had never visited Walt Disney World so the group scoured the Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom and Hollywood Studios and found plenty of entertainment and excitement. From thrill seeking rides, Broadway-like shows, parades, fireworks and safaris, to cultural experiences from other parts of the world, all proved to be invaluable learning opportunities.

"The girls were able to network with other young people, they learned about employment opportunities for high school and college age students, explored exhibits from around the world and enjoyed the joys of competition and performing on a national stage," said Michael Freeman, chaperone.

The girls described the trip, very similar, "Amazing, magical, memorable, rewarding and a once in a lifetime experience," they agreed. Of the performance Caitlyn Jackson said, "I am thankful to have been a part of this truly amazing group, and my experience was indescribable. Sally James added, "It felt surreal when they announced the Anson Majorettes from Wadesboro. Olivia Edwards shared, "During the performance I thought to myself 'I can't believe I am actually performing at Walt Disney World!'"

"These trips are so much more than dressing up in pretty costumes and performing at the happiest place in the world," said Sadie Freeman. "We work together to raise money, build relationships with people in the community, we meet role models to younger twirlers who may aspire to follow in our footsteps one day. We become other performers from all around the nation and we encounter many "once in a lifetime" experiences. These trips would not be possible without Anson County Schools, teachers, coaches, the supportive community, and our parents. We spend hours working toward the ultimate goal, but the reality is that it's worth every second of our hard work."

Terrin Williams shared, "I feel so lucky to be a part of such a great group. Performing at Disney World is one of the best experiences of my life. Being a majorette hasn't only been about twirling, but it has molded me into the person I am today. It really is true when we say "Once a majorette, always a majorette." The memories and friendships are something I will carry with me for a lifetime.

The parents weighed in on the experience as well. Robbie James and Kimberly Edwards both agreed, "What a great feeling to see young ladies representing Anson County High School and Anson County in such a positive way." Debbie Williams, Carla Freeman and Cathy Jackson all agreed that the girls learned so much about friendships, respect, responsibility and the rewards that come from hard work and success. As a chaperone and coach I observed something wonderful. We took five outstanding young ladies to Florida. We brought home those same young ladies, all a little wiser, more tolerant, friendlier, more decisive and more appreciative of the blessings they had received and the success they had achieved.

Thank you Anson County citizens, businesses and foundations for your support. We have spent much time serving our community with countless performances. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting us. We love Anson County!

By Melanie Lyon



Veterans Enjoy Chicken and Dumplings at Meeting

The aroma of homemade chicken and dumplings greeted the Anson County veterans as they assembled for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 19 at the National Guard Armory.

Newly appointed President Billy McCormick of Lilesville welcomed the veterans, spouses, and visitors. After

enjoying the homecooked meal, McCormick introduced the speaker for the night's program. Emphasis on veterans and higher education was presented by John Ratliff of South Piedmont Community College. Using a Power Point presentation, Ratliff helped each veteran become aware of the benefits awaiting veterans and their families at SPCC.

McCormick also requested veterans to enlist for the Anson County Honor Guard which is top priority for the Council. He briefly remarked on the topics of handicap ramps, website, and volunteers who had prepared the meal. A huge round of applause thundered throughout the building for Brenda Parker, Joyce McIntyre, Bruce Roberts and Betty Rogers for their hours of labor in preparing the delicious meal.

Door prizes included two live plants from Wadesboro IGA, a homemade pineapple cake by Brenda McCormick, a Lilesville Catfish Stew Cook-Off t-shirt and hat from Ted Ward, and a socket set by O'Reilly Auto Parts. World War II veterans were acknowledged and a photo was taken.

The Veteran's Council was officially formed earlier this year to bring awareness to the sacrifice our hometown heroes have made for America. The officers for the organization are Billy McCormick, President; Al Dean, Vice-President; Ann James, Secretary; and Anne McCormick, Treasurer. Council members at large are Ed Parker, Jimmy Hooks and Sherman Cash. The group meets monthly to present various programs that concern veterans and their families.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center at 6 p.m. All veterans, spouses, and widows are invited to attend.

Pictured here are, from left George Tatro, Charles Boyle, John Lester Harris and Jake Hanna.

Wild Hog Roundup Results

The 2013 Anson County Wild Hog Roundup is now history with 26 hunters participating, 19 hogs killed and 21 sponsors. Hosted by Allen's General Store, the event was held on Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23. The wild hog hunt provides a valuable service to area farmers and landowners whose land is overrun with wild hogs that damage crops. This year's event drew 26 hunters from Union, Anson, Stanly, Montgomery, Guilford and Mecklenburg counties.

There were two categories this year - still hunting and team/dog hunting. Any monies left after expenses was donated to the Levine Children's Hospital.

The 2013 roundup prizes awarded were:

- Largest Overall Hog (\$500) - 140.2 lbs - Backwoods Hog Hunters (Brian Allen, Anthony Taylor, Bud Ratliff, Jody Brown)
- 1st Place Team (\$400) - 4 hogs - Backwoods Hog Hunters
- 2nd Place Team (\$200) - 3 hogs - Joseph Goodwin, Travis Williams and Justin Brown
- 1st Place Still Hunters (\$400) - 127.8 lbs - Jackson Hargett
- 2nd Place Still Hunters (\$200) - 111.5 lbs - Joe Warner

You can see photos and details of the event at www.AnsonCountyWildHogRoundup.com. Pictured are the Largest Overall Hog and 1st Place Team Backwoods Hog Hunters



(Bud Ratliff, Brian Allen, Anthony Taylor and Jody Brown)

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April 17, 2013 9 am-Noon

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www.spcc.edu

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- Learn about educational & training opportunities.
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- South Piedmont Community College
- Anson County Department of Social Services
- Anson County Chamber of Commerce
- Centralina Workforce Development Board
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*Professional dress is **REQUIRED**. Bring resumes.
Due to expected large crowds, we ask visitors to prepare for longer wait times.

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