

Remember Rockford



Rockford Preservation Society

Winter 2020 Newsletter

Village of Rockford, N.C. Est. 1789

Thankfully, 2020 is almost over! This has been a rough year for a lot of folks. For those who have suffered great loss this year, you are in our thoughts and prayers. We are also praying that 2021 will be a better year for families, businesses and non-profits. We appreciate our health professionals that have risked so much for so many.

1810 WP Dobson Store/Masonic Lodge

The progress that was being made on the WP Dobson Store/Masonic Lodge resumed in May after having to stop in March due to COVID. The last picture shows the exterior painted and the work almost complete! This winter and spring, we will complete the carpentry on the inside. We can't wait to show it off! Below is the progression now.

2015



2016



2019



2020



Sweet Paws Home Goods and Perlie Chic Boutique in the 1850 Dudley Glass/Davenport Gallery Building reopened in late May and were able to be open on Saturdays. They will be closing for the winter Saturday, Dec 19th and will reopen in March, 2021.

On a sad note, for the Rockford Preservation Society and all of us who knew and loved him, our friend and worker bee, Burt Reid, passed away as the result of a car accident. Burt painted the York Tavern, the Rockford church, the 1900 Post Office, and the Davenport Gallery building. He helped to maintain the properties doing weed eating, mowing and cleaning and numerous special projects. He had helped us in Rockford for close to fifteen years. He has been and will be missed so much.

Surry County 250th <https://www.facebook.com/surry250/>

Six years before the United States was established, the founding of Surry County, North Carolina, began with a bill submitted by local leaders in 1770. North Carolina's Colonial Assembly went on to approve the bill several months later, thus creating Surry County in 1771.

Surry County marks its 250th anniversary with a 12-month Sestercentennial celebration. This was supposed to be May 2020 to April 2021. It has now been postponed to 2021 with the date to be announced.

This was to be the 30th year of our Candlelight Christmas in Rockford programs. Due to COVID, we had to cancel this as well. HOWEVER, the exciting news is that you can go online to our website, www.rememberrockford.com or to Facebook on our REMEMBER ROCKFORD group page or Rockford Visitors Center and History Museum page. We have posted a slideshow from 29 years of the program. We also posted videos from previous years of some of our performers, and we will post videos sent in from some of our performers that were recently recorded at home, in the church, or at a studio. We appreciate all of our performers who have been a part of Candlelight Christmas for all of these years, including this year! Enjoy the videos and while you are listening to their incredible music, you can reminisce about being inside the 1914 Rockford Methodist Church. The plan is to be back next year with all of our events and programs. I cannot thank Ashley Matthews enough for her hard work on this.

We want to sincerely thank everyone who has supported the RPS and our efforts to restore and maintain our part of the Historic Village of Rockford. This year has been rough for a lot of nonprofits and we are no exception. Fundraising events and opportunities were cancelled.

- Our usual May Fundraising dinner that raises the funds for our operating costs like mowing, insurance and utilities for the year had to be cancelled.
- Our September 12th Remember Rockford/ReDiscover Rockford had to be cancelled. We are still planning our re-branding to ReDiscover Rockford, but it is being pushed to 2021.
- Candlelight Christmas programs at the church – cancelled.

If you are thinking about year-end contributions, please remember Rockford. If you would prefer to give online, go to <http://www.rememberrockford.com/donate.html>. Or, you can mail to Rockford Preservation Society 4844 Rockford Road Dobson, NC 27017. Again, we thank you so much for your support!