



## State of North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Newsletter

**April 2010 Issue 10**

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We wish to dedicate this newsletter to those ABC Commission staff members who are retiring in 2010. Their combined service time totals 146 years.

The Commission and the State of North Carolina extends its sincere appreciation for many years of dedicated service.

Congratulations and best wishes to our retiring employees in the years to come!

**Elizabeth Baker**  
Administrative Officer  
45 Years



Not many state employees can say they have worked for eight governors during their career beginning with Governor Dan Moore (1965-1969) and ending with the present Governor, Beverly Purdue. Elizabeth has also worked with

six Commission Administrators, from Carl Wester to the present Administrator, Mike Herring. She recalls Mr. Wester was Administrator for 30 years.

She began her ABC Commission career in November, 1965 after completing a secretarial program at Hardbarger Business College in Raleigh where she studied accounting, business math, business English, typing and speed writing. The college's job placement service organized her interview with the ABC Commission.

Elizabeth's first position was Stenographer in the Permit Division, supervised by Lee Phillips who also supervised the Commission's ABC Officers. Business machines such as addressograph and mimeograph were used to issue new permits. She remained in the division for two years and was promoted to the Administrator's office where she has remained until her retirement.

Elizabeth has seen lots of progress over the years and remembers well her first electric typewriter, saying she was scared to death of it. Typewriter terms at the time were carbon and onion paper used for making duplicates of original

typed documents and erasers were used for corrections.

Elizabeth retired in 2002 with 37 years of service and has remained on a part-time basis. She is officially retiring June 1, 2010.

She looks forward to spending more time with her children, grandchildren and extended family.

**Penny Starling**  
PricingManager/  
Administrative Secretary  
32 Years



After relocating from New Hanover County to Raleigh in December 1976, Penny began working for Amoco Credit Card Processing Center.

After applying with the Commission, she was hired by Administrator Bill Hester as Records Clerk on April 3, 1978. Her duties included issuing temporary permits, and assisting Elizabeth Baker with pricing. Eventually she assumed responsibility for the Price List, ABC

Board Monthly Sales, and the spirituous liquor annual revenue reports.

Penny credits her dad, a 30 year Marine veteran, for teaching her honorable work ethics and to be attentive to exceptional details. In the early years, she gained much of her knowledge from Mr. Syd Dunn who introduced her to "Grossman's Guide to (Wines, Beers,) and Spirits" and Mr. Dick Juby of DISCUS who taught her the difference between the "spirituous liquors."

She took computer courses at Wake Tech and earned a degree in Micro-Computers. Penny too has seen many changes over the years. She introduced the ABC Boards to diskettes and later implemented the use of modems for the transfer of pricing to the ABC boards and bottles sales to the Commission.

In 1997 she designed the Internet-based ABC Pricing System and traveled with NABCA to promote this system to other Control States. North Carolina was the first state in the country to have a system that allowed liquor suppliers to access, submit, update and view live data (spirituous liquor price filings) on their computers, anywhere at any time.

Penny wishes to thank the Commission and its leadership for the opportunities for professional and personal development provided her. She has also enjoyed the friendships of her office colleagues through the years as well as those in and out of the state working together to fulfill their duties.

She will be retiring July 1, 2010.

**Dottie Taylor**  
Legal Assistant  
32 years



After attending East Carolina University for two years, Dottie enrolled at Hardbarger Business College in their Secretarial Program.

She began her state career on October 28, 1978 with the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety/Alcohol Law Enforcement Division. Her first position was Personal Secretary to Tom Parker, Deputy Director for Administration, and receptionist from October, 1978 to May, 1982. Her next position was Personal Secretary to Don Murray, Deputy Director for Operations, from June, 1982 to March, 1986.

Dottie came to work with ABC Commission as Special Order Coordinator on April 1, 1986, working at the ABC Warehouse Complex with Guy Potts, Internal Auditor. She served as the Commission's primary contact for ABC boards, military bases and the general public to price and order spirituous

liquor not included in the State's approved price book.

Beginning in August, 2005, she was promoted to Legal Assistant in the Commission's Legal Division.

Dottie retired March 1, 2010.

She has one son, Chad who along with his wife Kat, reside in Beaufort, NC. He is a highway patrolman. She plans to travel and spend time with family and friends.

**Theresa Avery**  
Administrative Supervisor  
30 Years



Theresa began her state career in July, 1980 as a temporary employee in the ABC Commission's Legal Division while another employee was on maternity leave. After a few months, she transferred into the Secretary position with the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division. Ed Holmes, Supervisor at the time, hired her.

Her duties involved coordinating activities with the division's dozen or so agents, preparing time sheets, expense and violation reports, dictating and

issuing temporary permits and maintaining radio contact with the agents.

In 1987, Theresa began her Commission career as Legal Division Clerk to two attorneys. She oversees the department's case load of violations, reviews all correspondence to alcohol permittees, and is liaison to other agencies including law enforcement and local ABC officers.

Theresa will be retiring September 1, 2010.

She plans to relax and spend time with family and friends in Raleigh and New Jersey.

**Annette Taylor**  
Administrative Assistant  
7 Years

Annette's previous 33 year career was with the Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society in Washington, DC. Her duties were in the Accounts Payable Division.

The Society is the nation's oldest academic honor society founded in 1776. The national office is responsible for conducting the daily business of the Society and for the administration of its national programs, which include academic and literary awards, visiting scholars programs, a lectureship, and visiting scholars programs.

She returned to her native Wayne County in 1996 and after working a year with Goerlich's, now AP Parts, in Goldsboro and a year with Channel Master in Smithfield, she began her tenure with the Commission October 22, 2003. Initially, she served as

Receptionist and was promoted to work in the Permit Division.

Annette has spent the last four years as Administrative Assistant. Her duties include assisting the Administrator and Commission Auditor, handling Special Orders and coordinating office and warehouse functions.

Annette will be retiring September 1, 2010.

She looks forward to traveling and has three trips planned for later this year. One of her trips will be aboard the Oasis of the Seas, the world's largest cruise ship.

**From the ABC Commission Files**



Send any retirement and other announcements for inclusion in future newsletters to Guy Potts [guy.potts@abc.nc.gov](mailto:guy.potts@abc.nc.gov) or call 919-218-0748

## Kenansville ABC Dedicates Building



Spike Edwards, ABC store Manager and the Oakley Family

Duplin Times - Anne Hunter

Kenansville - The Kenansville ABC store building is now named the Francis F. Oakley building in honor of Oakley as well as past, present and future board members. Oakley was on the local Alcohol Beverage Control board when the store was built and was instrumental in the store being built.

Family and friends gathered at the store on Tuesday, March 23 at a dedication ceremony led by David "Spike" Edwards, store manager. In attendance were Oakley's wife, Margaret of Kenansville; daughter Rebecca Lockamy and her husband Scotty, of Warsaw; daughter Ann Batts and husband Ronnie, of Kenansville; sister Martha Banford from Jacksonville; and granddaughter Jessica Turner of Kenansville. His son, Woody from Beaufort, South Carolina was unable to attend. He has eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Among the 25 plus people attending were Kenansville Mayor Betty Long, Kenansville board member Allen Wood, Kenansville ABC

board member Willie Steel, North Carolina ABC Commission member Guy Potts, and former Kenansville ABC board and town board member Jimmy Newkirk.

Mr. Oakley moved to Kenansville in 1954 and worked for Quinn McGowan Funeral Home, National Spinning from 1965 to 1970, Quinn Wholesale from 1970 to 1989. He died in November of 1998.

"I am very honored and know that he would be very pleased," Mrs. Oakley stated. "He was so proud of this store. I appreciate it for the town and the county." Mrs. Oakley also remembered her husband for the clothes he wore. "One of the things he was known for was that he loved colorful clothes." She said he was buried in a red sports coat.

"He went to Greenville and looked at a store there," Edwards said. "This store is modeled after the store in Greenville. I am proud to honor and remember him."

Edwards said the Kenansville store has generated over one-half million dollars in town and county taxes since its opening. [1966]

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