

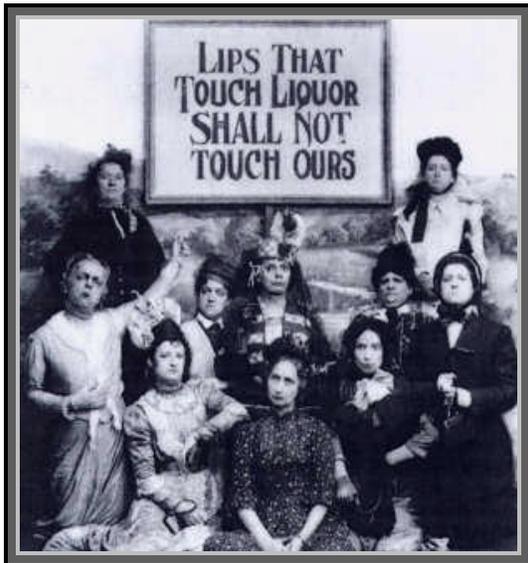


**State of North Carolina
Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission
Newsletter**

January 2009 Issue 5

Our best wishes go out to those ABC store Managers who have recently retired and congratulations on a job well done!

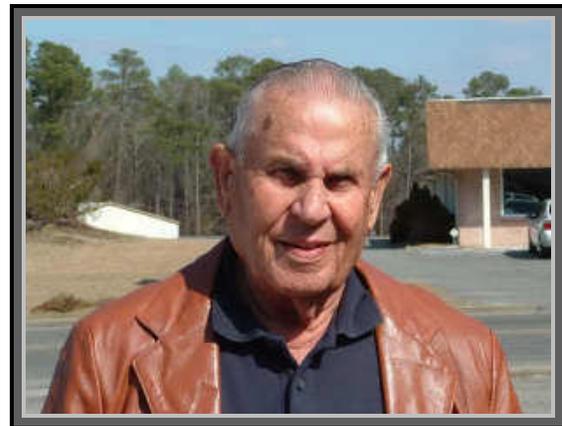
We also wish to recognize other ABC Managers and Industry Representatives who have long years of service and continue with the ABC system in North Carolina.



Caption: "Lips That Touch Liquor Shall Not Touch Ours"

Contributed by Jack Wooten.

**Willie Jones
Greene County ABC
57 Years**



Willie Jones is a 1989 inductee into the North Carolina American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame, established in 1967 to honor those who have used their talents and knowledge, their time and money, and their hard work to make American Legion Baseball a success in North Carolina.

On February 2, 1952, Willie began his ABC career with the Greene County ABC Board; his wages were \$80 per month. He was previously working with the Department of Transportation when he heard of the job opening at the ABC store. The supervisor at the time was Neill Carraway who managed two stores, one in Walstonburg and one in Snow Hill. In 1957, the Snow Hill store moved to its present location.

In 1992, Willie became supervisor of the ABC system and is still working on a part-time basis and says he will work as long as possible.

Willie has fond memories of Mr. Marvin Speight, the former ABC Commission Chairman, and knew him for over 50 years. Mr. Speight always stopped by his store for a visit on his way to and from the beach.

One of his fondest memories is the time he gave blood for a baby who was in need of his blood type. Many years later, a young lady came by to see him at the store and thanked him for the blood that saved her life. She was the baby in need.

Greene County ABC opened in 1935. Annual sales are approximately \$600 thousand.

Glasgow County was formed in 1791 and named for James Glasgow, North Carolina Secretary of State from 1777 to 1798. In 1799, it was renamed Greene County in honor of Nathanael Greene, one of the major generals of the Continental Army in the American Revolutionary War.

David Thomas Sparrow
David T. Sparrow, Inc.
56 years

Mr. Tommy Sparrow graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1942. His college expenses for all four years were around \$500. There were 4,000 students at the time, 200 of whom were women.

After college, he went on to serve in WWII where he saw duty in North

Carolina, Colorado, Arkansas, South Carolina, Okinawa, and occupational duty in Japan.



In 1949, while reading the local paper, Mr. Sparrow discovered he had just been appointed to the Beaufort County ABC Board. Compensation for attending a board meeting was \$5, and if a member did not attend, they did not receive the amount. He is the only local ABC board member who went on to start his own brokerage business in North Carolina.

In 1953, Mr. Sparrow began his ABC career with Lawrence Crowder, a broker from Wilson, NC. After three months, he started his own brokerage business and was the only employee for 12 years. The first brands he represented were Old Mill Stream, Bourbon Still, and Colonel's Pride of Grosscurth Distillery, Inc.

There were 37 ABC boards open when Mr. Sparrow started traveling around the state. In 1960, Earl Weatherly, formerly an ABC officer, joined the business and worked with him for 17 years. David Sparrow, Mr. Tommy's son, joined him about this time. David's son, Avery, has joined in making this a three generation business today. The business is now

incorporated as Sparrow & Associates, Inc.

[Mr. Sparrow's Memorabilia Wall]



Although Mr. Sparrow has turned over the business to his son and grandson, he still goes to the office daily in Washington, NC. He gets to travel with his family and recently attended an AMIA Church (Anglican) National Conference in Greensboro.

Kay Williams
Southern Wines & Spirits
Mid Atlantic, Inc.
42 Years

Kay recalls a story that occurred in the office of Hannah & Dunn before the half gallon sizes were available in North Carolina. Mr. Lee Hannah made the statement that he thought The State Board would soon be listing the new size and everyone in their office couldn't believe he thought this would ever happen.

Kay began her ABC career in 1967 with the brokerage firm of Hannah & Dunn with Mr. Lee Hannah and Mr. Syd Dunn. She previously worked in the same office building with a real estate

firm and upon learning of a job opportunity; she took the new job where she has remained for 42 years.

Kay's duties at her new job involved typing office correspondence and military orders. She well remembers the early manual typewriters and the arrival of electric typewriters. At the time, stencils were the norm instead of today's xerox machines. Over the years, Kay's knowledge and expertise in the business have enabled her to perform many of the required tasks. Pricing and inventory management are currently her areas of responsibility.



Besides enjoying time with her family, Kay likes to ride and be around horses. Recently she was involved in a Therapeutic Riding Program in the Greenville area. Therapeutic riding is an emerging field in which horses are used as a tool for physical therapy, emotional growth and learning. For individuals with physical, mental or emotional disabilities, the unique relationship formed with the horse can lead to increased confidence, patience and self-esteem. She would like to help get a program started in the Bath, NC area.

Billy Williams
New Hanover County ABC
42 Years



Billy's birthday on February 17 is also shared by Michael Jordan, who grew up in Wilmington and later went on to a successful career with the NBA.

Billy had several jobs prior to the ABC business, one of them being with his present board member, Dick Hanson, who owned a chemical company.

Billy was married in December, 1967, turned 21 years old in February, 1968, and started working with the New Hanover County ABC Board two weeks later on March 1. He had heard of a vacancy with the ABC board and, after applying, started at the Kure Beach store which was only open three months of the year.

After his summer employment at Kure Beach, and nine months later, Billy was promoted to Assistant Manager at the New Castle ABC store. A short time later, he was promoted to Assistant Administrator to George Talley. In 1987, he was promoted to Administrator where he presently serves.

In 1968, the Chairman served as the Administrator, a board member was in charge of personnel, and the other member was in charge of the warehouse. Five ABC officers were employed. Around 1980, the ABC board contracted with the New Hanover Sheriff's Department for law enforcement and three officers were assigned to ABC business.

Under Billy's tenure as Administrator, the ABC board has modernized many of their retail outlets. They are currently in the construction process to replace their Carolina Beach store.

New Hanover County ABC opened in 1935. Annual sales are approximately \$31 million.

The University of NC at Wilmington was established in 1947 as Wilmington College and has been a campus of the University of North Carolina since 1969.

Lagray Matthews
Randleman ABC
Randolph County
30 years

Lagray's first experience with an ABC store was when she and her brother accompanied their father who sold produce in the Randleman ABC store parking lot.

A Sampson County native, Lagray and her family moved to the Guilford County area when she was young. She moved to Randolph County after her marriage.

In her senior year of high school, Lagray went to work on a part-time basis for



Robert L. Stanley, Accountant, and after graduation, went full time. Two years later , she moved to Murrows Trucking Company for another two years. A friend at work told her of an opening at the ABC store and on August 20, 1979, she began her career with Randleman ABC.

The ABC store has been at three locations: it opened on Main Street in 1965; relocated to Academy Street in 1973; and on February 14, 2000, the present store was opened on West Academy Street, the first store to be self-service.

In 1990, George Nelson, Manager, retired and Lagray was appointed to the position while still retaining her bookkeeping duties. She continues in this capacity and has no immediate plans to retire.

She is enjoying her grandchildren these days and is a big Carolina fan.

Randleman ABC opened in 1965. Annual sales are approximately \$2.7 million.

Randleman is the home of NASCAR's Petty family and the Richard Petty Museum.

**William "Bill" Stamey
Statesville ABC
Iredell County
12 Years - Retired**

During his 15 year law enforcement career, Bill has served as jailor, deputy, detective, chief deputy, and ABC officer.

In 1969, after a five year position with a company in Charlotte, Bill joined the Statesville Fire Department. In 1971, he joined the Iredell County Sheriff's Department and served throughout the years as jailor, deputy, detective, and chief deputy until 1978.

In 1979, Bill became the ABC Officer for the Statesville ABC Board and returned to the Sheriff's Department in 1984.



In 1997, Bill became the Manager of Statesville ABC and in 2008, opened their second ABC store. He retired in December 24, 2008 with 27 ½ years in law enforcement and the ABC system combined. His wife retired December 23rd, one day before him. He is looking

forward to relaxing, traveling and spending time with the grandchildren. He also plans to work on his antique car and enjoys collecting guns and coins.

Statesville ABC opened in 1973. Annual sales are approximately \$4 million.

Statesville is home to the Carolina BalloonFest, the oldest balloon rally on the East Coast and held each October.

Don Eudy
Mt. Pleasant ABC
Cabarrus County
11 Years - Retired



When the Mt. Pleasant ABC store opened in 1967, Don considered applying for a position but was discouraged by his wife.

Don found employment with National Linen Service where he worked as route man, supervisor, and in purchasing for 23 years. He went on to work for Coca Cola Bottling for eight years as route man. A bottle of Coca Cola cost five cents at the time. In 1997, Don applied for a position at the ABC store supervised by Cecil Simpson and was

hired as clerk. In six months, he was promoted to Manager upon Mr. Simpson's retirement and has been in that position for 10 years.

Don's wife retired three years ago and they plan to enjoy their time at their condo in Myrtle Beach for several months of the year. They have grandchildren in the Mt. Pleasant area and hope to spend more time with them as well. Don has offered to assist at the ABC store, if needed, when employees are out sick or on vacation.

Mt. Pleasant ABC opened in 1967. Annual sales are approximately \$520 thousand.

Mt. Pleasant was home to the Mont Amoena Seminary, a Lutheran school for girls, 1859-1927. The name is Latin for "Mt. Pleasant."

Angier ABC - New



Send any retirement and store renovation announcements for inclusion in future newsletters to Guy Potts guy.potts@abc.nc.gov or call him at 919-218-0748.