



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

January 2010 Issue 9

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 who have long years of service and continue in the ABC system in North Carolina.

William F. "Bill" Hester



Bill Hester and Mike Herring at Bill's Retirement Party.

In 1967/68 Bill Hester graduated from Appalachian State University with a BS degree in Political Science and a teaching degree. He met his future wife, Joyce Wheeler, and married in 1970. Joyce has a BS in elementary education

from Appalachian and continues to teach fifth grade in Charlotte. They have three sons; Will, age 34, Joshua, age 28, and Matthew, 26. Will graduated from High Point University. Josh graduated from UNC Wilmington. Matt graduated from UNC Chapel Hill.

Bill's first job after college was teaching in the Raleigh/Wake County Schools for five years and his last year was at his alma mater, Needham B. Broughton High School, as a counselor.

In 1973 Bill applied for a "hearing officer" position with the North Carolina ABC Commission. In two months, the Administrator of the ABC Commission resigned and Bill was selected for the administrator's position. At the age of 27 he was the youngest person in the Control States to be named Administrator. In late 1974, he joined the Xerox Corporation as their Governmental Affairs Director for North Carolina.

In 1977, he returned as the ABC Administrator under Chairman Marvin L. Speight. The next year Bill helped write the new Mixed Beverage Laws of North Carolina for the General Assembly. By 1980, he was directed by the ABC Commission to prepare a

proposal for the Governor and General Assembly to build a 200,000 square foot Warehouse and Office complex without using any state funds. This led to the sale of \$5,500,050 in 10 year public revenue bonds. The "Bailment Surcharge" paid for all of the bonds, and there were no state funds used for this project. This new warehouse was projected to serve the needs of the state and local ABC Boards for 15 to 18 years.

In 1990, Bill was hired by the Mecklenburg County ABC Board to be the Assistant General Manager. Three years later, the General Manager retired after 30 years of service and Bill was promoted to Executive General Manager. Under Bill's direction, an all out plan for modernization was implemented with the help of his senior staff and support from his local board. All 19 stores were made self service and each store had its own decorating theme. In 10 years, the business grew from 34 million dollars in gross sales to almost 60 million and 6 new stores. The Alcohol Education Program in Mecklenburg won statewide recognition under his leadership. Bill helped to sell the ABC Complex in downtown Charlotte to the city. This nine million dollar sale resulted in the purchase of a new state-of-the-art complex (remodeled) in downtown Charlotte. Enough money was left over to build three new, modern, super ABC stores and to give the County of Mecklenburg, the City of Charlotte, and the Public Library one million dollars.

In 2000, Bill was selected by Market Watch Magazine as "Retailer of the Year" for the Control States. This was only the third time in 40 years that

someone from North Carolina was presented this industry honor.

In March, 2003, Bill retired from the Local Government System with 32 years of service. Six months later, he was hired by Allied Domecq as their consultant, lobbyist, and Director of Governmental Relations. In 2006, Southern Wine and Spirits hired him to be their consultant, lobbyist and Governmental Affairs Director for North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. He served in this position until 2010.

Pat Capps
Wilson County ABC
30 Years



One of the things Pat is looking forward to in her retirement is seeing all of Good Morning America each morning along with her coffee.

She graduated from Rock Ridge High School in 1968. Her first summer job off the farm was with Buckhorn Garment Factory along with her mother. She saw how hard they had to work and make production for any extra money and decided that was not for her. She then went on to work for Reuben H. Donnelly

Marketing where her duties included typing, making copies and miscellaneous jobs around the office. During this time she went to Wilson Tech at night to refresh her typing skills and learn bookkeeping.

Her first job out of Wilson Tech was with Cargill Grain and Feed Company, followed by a stint with Johnson Furniture Store which eventually went out of business. She found employment with Goodyear Tire Company but after a tire strike up north, she became unemployed. As the last one hired, she was the first one laid off. After learning that drawing unemployment was not for her, she went to work keeping books for Pizza Inn and Steak Barn where she met Judie Vick, bookkeeper for the Wilson County ABC Board.

Marvin Turner, who worked for the Wilson County ABC Board for 44 years, was retiring and Judie Vick was appointed Supervisor. Pat was hired as bookkeeper in August 1979 and has remained there ever since. At that time, there were nine ABC stores in Wilson County.

Judie Vick left Wilson County in August 1992 and an interim supervisor was hired. After seven months, Pat was appointed Supervisor in April 1993.

During her tenure, Pat and the ABC Board have remodeled five of their county stores, converting them from over-the-counter to self-service in the process. They have also built two new stores and closed stores in Black Creek, Saratoga, Sims and on Douglas Street in Wilson. They closed their warehouse and consolidated operations at one of the

new Wilson stores, creating an office, warehouse and store complex. Today there are seven ABC stores in Wilson County. They have also added mixed beverage sales to two stores for the convenience of their mixed beverage customers.

The Wilson County ABC Board implemented their first IBM computer system in February 1981. Pat first worked with a Burroughs Bookkeeping system machine and as time went by, worked with four other computer systems during her tenure. She has assisted in designing a website for board.

Pat has trained five bookkeepers and has served with six chairmen during her years of service with the Wilson County ABC Board. She is grateful for having the opportunity to work for the board and is looking forward to her retirement.

She remembers when she first started working with the ABC board, the ladies always wore dresses and skirts. Blie Lamm, a liquor salesman who called on them, would always sing "These Boots Are Made for Walking" every time he came to the office and she had on her knee boots.

Pat is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, Phil (who is also retired), daughter and grandson. She and Phil are avid golfers and hope to play even more. She belongs to Happy Valley Ladies Golf Association and is their Tri-City Representative. She is Treasurer for the Wilson County Shrinettes and volunteers with the American Cancer Society. She attends Little Rock Church in Lucama, NC.

Pat's official retirement date is March 1, 2010.

Wilson County ABC opened in 1935. Annual sales are approximately \$6 million.

Wilson County is home to Barton College, an academic community of approximately 1,130 students and 200 faculty and staff.

**Carl Bounds
Red Springs ABC
Robeson County
30 Years**



After his service in the Army, Carl returned to his hometown of Red Springs and enrolled at Robeson Community College and later, Pembroke State University for a degree in business. While attending the university, he worked at J. P. Stevens as inventory control manager at their Wagram location.

After attending his last morning class at the university, Carl interviewed with West Point Pepperell in the afternoon. He received a job offer that night by

phone and was hired as a staff accountant. He traveled extensively to New Jersey, Tennessee and eastern North Carolina. He worked in this position for two years and after tiring of the travel and missing time with his family, he sought other employment.

In September 1981, Carl began working with the Red Springs ABC Board under then Manager, Mack McClosky. The ABC store moved from its downtown location to the present site in the late 70's and when they opened, the building was paid for. Malcolm Watson was on the first ABC board and is presently serving as Chairman.

From 1998 to 2002, Carl worked as Manager at the Lumberton ABC Board. Upon leaving Lumberton, he returned to Red Springs ABC as Manager and has been employed there ever since. He retired in 2008 and now serves on a part-time basis as Manager with no plans of retiring again anytime soon. He is enjoying his time in the ABC business.

Carl is spending more time now with his family and two grandsons and enjoys this quality time with his family.

Red Springs ABC opened in 1973. Annual sales are approximately \$620 thousand.

Red Springs was named for its local springs which are colored by the presence of iron.

Sandra Gibbs
20 Years, 11 Months
Hyde County ABC



When Sandra started with Hyde County ABC, her supervisor instructed her to take a price book home with her over the weekend and "learn it all".

Prior to working with at the ABC store, Sandra worked part-time as cashier and cook, and was a full-time baby sitter. When she married her present husband, she had three children and he had three, so there were always things to do around the home.

In October, 1991, Sandra became Manager replacing Jay Ethridge who later became an ABC board member and is currently serving as Chairman. The ABC system has two stores, one in Swan Quarter and the other on Ocracoke Island. The Ocracoke store location is unique as the only way to deliver liquor there is by transporting it on a three-hour ferry ride from Swan Quarter.

Sandra has seen many changes over the years: from cash registers to computers and the addition of mixed beverage

sales. She has done the bookkeeping for the ABC stores and has worked in both stores over the years.

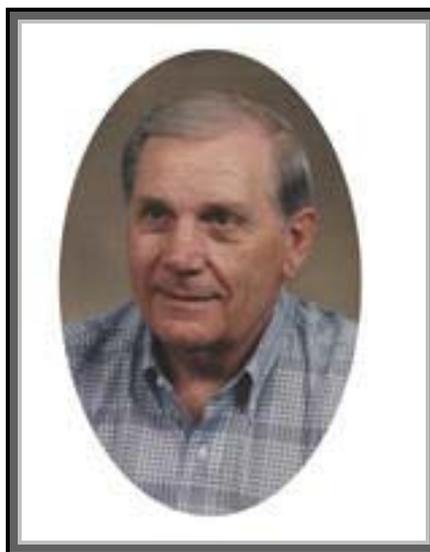
Sandra is looking forward to retirement and to taking care of her newest great grandchild. She has plans to write a cook book for her family, spend time with her husband and accompany him on fishing trips. Sandra also enjoys scrap booking, riding her bike, reading and attending church. She also plans to spend more time with her children, 12 grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

Sandra has enjoyed working at with the Hyde County ABC and with the public. Her official retirement date was January 31, 2010.

Hyde County ABC opened in 1978. Annual sales are approximately \$570 thousand.

Hyde County is home to Lake Mattamuskeet which makes up most of Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge.

Jim McNeill – Wilkesboro ABC



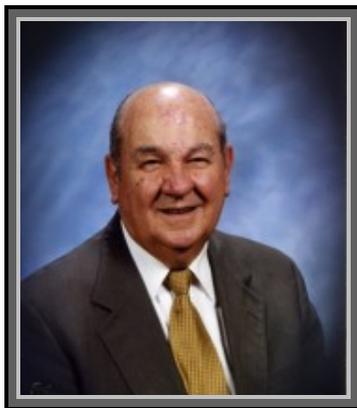
Jim McNeil former manager of the Wilkesboro ABC Store passed away December 20, 2009. Burial was with military honors by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1142.

Jim started at the ABC Store in October 1965 and retired as manager in June 1998.

Mr. McNeil was born in Wilkes County, May 25, 1933, to John Gwyn and Ressie Snow Scott McNeil. He served in the US Army during the Korean War. Mr. McNeil attended New Hope Baptist Church

Mr. McNeil is survived by his wife, Barbara Ann Curtis McNeil of the home; two sons, Kenneth McNeil of Atlanta, GA and Keith McNeil of Dallas, NC; three daughters, Pam Thompson and husband, Brent of Hudson, Lisa Carson and husband, Don of Boonville, Dana Edwards and husband, Ken of King; one sister, Carole Long and husband, Marshall of North Wilkesboro; seven grandchildren; five great grandchildren.

Charlie Smith – Dunn ABC



Mr. Charles Hugh Smith
January 20, 1926 - January 6, 2010

Mr. Charles Hugh Smith, 83, of Dunn died Wednesday night at Betsy Johnson Regional Hospital. The Harnett County native was the son of the late John B. and Mamie J. Smith. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Mayo and Robert Smith and, a sister, Hilda Whitman.

Charles served in the US Navy aboard the USS Carlton Ellis as a gunner during WWII. He was the supervisor of the Dunn ABC Stores from 1962 until retiring in 2000 and also served on the ABC Board.

He is survived by his wife Shirley R. Smith, three sons, Hugh Smith and wife Cathy of Dunn, Ray Smith and wife Cindy of Barnesville, GA, Chris Smith and wife Cindy of Dunn, two daughters, Elaine Williams and husband Danny of Boone, Ann Winters and husband Gene of Christiansburg, VA., a sister, Ruth Sessoms of Dunn, thirteen grand children, Elizabeth and Matthew Smith, Austin and Emily Borghere, Josh Kaminski, Jesse and Larkin Williams, Amber Smith, Adam, Katie and Emily Winters, Charlie and Allie Smith, three great grand children, Mia Winters, Lauren and Carson Smith.

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