



# Hickory Neck Nuggets

Hickory Neck Parish Episcopal Church

June 2007

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## Slow Moving Car in the Left Hand Lane

The Reverend Ann Dieterle



have changed; life is different, there is a new reality.

I don't know about you, but there are times when I feel like life isn't so much something that I'm living as it is something that is happening to me. I feel as if I'm a slow moving car in the left hand lane, and the rest of the world is speeding up behind me and around me, pushing me faster than I really want to go. It is frightening. It is a bit dangerous.

When I find myself feeling this way, I remind myself of several truths. The first is that there is a piece of this that is quite true. There is a lot in life that happens to us over which we have no control. Some of those things are good - being surprised by a random act of kindness or generosity, or falling in love. Things like that are often unexpected and random, and yet they have a positive impact on us.

But a lot of those things are very negative. Their random-

ness defies all logic and can undermine our feeling of safety in the world and our trust in a benevolent God. Disease, tragic accidents - I don't really need to name them, because sadly, you know them well already.

But the second truth is this: whatever life throws at me, whatever happens to me, I am still a creative agent in this world. Because we are made in the image of God, we are more than just puppets, more than just participants - we help to write the script that we then act out. That doesn't change the painful or tragic nature of some of the events and circumstances that we have to live through, but it incorporates a different element, a different perspective into it. When we are creative agents in our life and in our world, we are participating with God. God is not a master manipulator who is acting on us; God is present with us - laughing when we laugh, crying when we cry, and guiding us as we choose what  
(continued on page 6)

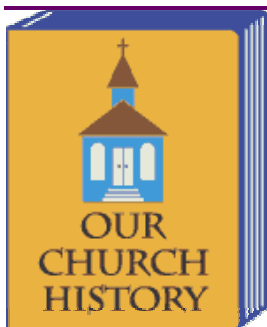
You may have seen the insurance commercials with the tagline "life comes at you fast."<sup>1</sup> They usually begin with someone doing a relatively mundane activity when all of a sudden something random but dramatic happens to them - something that signals a change in their reality.

"Life comes at you fast." I find myself quoting that phrase a lot these days because I'm endlessly surprised by the pace with which things move. I turn around and things

<sup>1</sup> For Nationwide Insurance

## Hickory Neck's Sister Church, Warrany

Martha W. McCartney



Historic Blisland Parish, of which Hickory Neck Church was part, was established by 1652. Although the location of its very first church remains a mystery, it probably was in the eastern (or lower) part of the parish's territory, the earliest settled and most densely populated area. By 1703 an Upper Church, commonly known as the Warrany Church, had been built at the head of Warrany Creek, near the road to New Kent Courthouse. Blisland's vestry, which served the parish's Upper and Lower Churches, convened twice a year, in the spring and fall, and usually alternated their meetings between the Upper and Lower Churches. In 1724 the Reverend Daniel Taylor, Blisland Parish's rector, informed the Bishop of London that his parish was 30 miles long and had two churches that were supported by 136 families.

Blisland Parish's population grew and in 1755 the vestry decided to expand the Warrany Church through the addition of a north transept that was 24 feet long and the same width as the original part of the church. It was to have a compass

(or barrel) ceiling and to be lathed, plastered, and whitewashed. The brick wall surrounding the Warrany Church was partially dismantled to accommodate the new transept, just as was done in 1774 when Hickory Neck was expanded.

Like Hickory Neck, the Warrany Church suffered from neglect and abandonment after the American Revolution. During the War of 1812, a soldier who encamped at the Warrany Church, spoke of clearing away debris so that he could take shelter for the night. In a letter to his sister, he said that, "The walls and a part of the roof only remain – the floors, doors, windows and all the timber having been put to other uses by the pious parishioners." He added that "the walls are still very good" and that according to an inscription over the door, the church had been built in 1703. That the Warrany Church, which was in useable condition in 1786, by 1814 had been scavenged to the point that it was only a debris filled shell conveys an idea of what may have happened at Hickory Neck after the colonial building ceased being used regularly for worship services.



Congratulations to the following high school graduates:

Joseph Banks - West Point

Ryan Leggett - Lafayette

Marta Zoellner - Jamestown

## Relay For Life

Karen Dutro



It's time to Relay! The Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer

Society will be held Friday and Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at Jamestown High School. It's not too late to join the Hickory Neck Heavenly Hikers, either as an official member or an unofficial (but very important) supporter. The festivities begin at 7:00 p.m. with the Survivor's Lap – one of the most inspirational and awesome things you will ever see. After that, we'll start walking. You don't need to be an official member of the team to join us and you don't even have to walk if you don't want to.

There will be many games, raffles, contests, food and lots more going on all through the night. The Luminary Ceremony starts at 9:00 p.m. – another awe inspiring site as the luminarias are all lighted at one time around the track, in remembrance or in honor of those affected by cancer. The closing ceremony takes place on Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. We are always in need of help setting up on Friday night (around 4:30 p.m.) or packing up on Saturday morning (around 9:00 a.m.). We hope you can join us, if not in person, than in spirit! For more information or questions about this event, please contact Karen or John Dutro at 566-8561 or e-mail [kdutro@msn.com](mailto:kdutro@msn.com).



## In The Spotlight

### Carol Goff



The column this month recognizes the multiple contributions and hard work of one of our newest Vestry members - Lauris Zeni - who, in her short time as part of the Hickory Neck family, has immersed herself in our church's programs.

When Lauris and her husband made their retirement choice several years ago, they decided to return to "home base". During her childhood, Lauris had lived all over Virginia when her family moved to various locations because of her father's employment with Dominion Resources. She graduated from William and Mary and while her husband completed his MBA there, she taught fifth and sixth grades during their four year residency here. However, his new career soon took them on a worldwide journey before returning as retirees. The journey took them to residencies in Atlanta, Georgia; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Washington, D.C.; the Midwest states of Oklahoma and Texas and also to a

five year sojourn in Singapore which gave the couple a launching pad to travel all over the Far East with their son and daughter. By the time retirement beckoned, Lauris was ready to return to Williamsburg and settle down.

Although she is a "Cradle Episcopalian", Lauris found that nursing her dying sister, father, and a close friend through the final stages of cancer left her in a spiritual desert. She determined that finding a church home would help quench the thirst and began a search. She had often passed the Historic Chapel on her way to and from the Richmond airport, so she took a chance that services were still conducted there and entered the building on the Sunday following Ash Wednesday. As soon as she sat down, she felt the presence of the Holy Spirit and stayed on to become a member who gives generously of her time and talents to the Hickory Neck mission.

After taking a leadership course under the direction of Bill Teale, Lauris agreed to share the Chairperson responsibilities for last year's Fall Festival which was so successful. She is now head of the effort for the 2007 event. Since it is the major Outreach program sponsored by the entire congregation, Lauris is finding that she is very busy as she coordinates all the various activities that must come together on the last weekend in September to ensure

that a healthy financial assist goes out to our larger community. Lauris also serves on the Outreach Council which decides how to distribute the proceeds from the Fall Festival.

This past November, Lauris was elected to the Vestry and has taken on the Newcomers Ministry which reaches out to visitors with information and invitations to learn about Hickory Neck. In response to a completed Visitor Card, she delivers a basket containing a homemade loaf of bread and printed information about the church. In addition, she coordinates a twice yearly social for prospective members as well as a New Member Orientation for those who decide to join. Lauris also serves as a Lay Chalice Bearer and participates in the Lay Eucharistic Ministry program which delivers Eucharist to those unable to attend services.

Last fall, Lauris joined the Education for Ministry (EFM) course, led by Dan Wetta, which is a weekly study program lasting for four years. Those who enter the course dedicate themselves to an intense study and self examination regimen to determine where their abilities can best be used in service to God. At this

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Visit Hickory Neck on the web at [www.hickoryneck.org](http://www.hickoryneck.org)

## June Celebrations



### Birthdays

- 3 - Sandy Harvey
- 3 - Melissa Casheros
- 4 - Joe Orth
- 6 - Georgia Irby-Massie
- 7 - David Baum
- 7 - Elizabeth Baum
- 10 - Bob Williams
- 10 - Linda Mathews
- 12 - Janet Blair
- 13 - Jesse Hodges
- 13 - Nancy Fedorisko
- 14 - Ginny Daughtry
- 15 - Alyssa Deal
- 18 - Terri Keffert
- 18 - Shirley Forde
- 22 - Michael Delk
- 22 - Vlad Casanave
- 24 - Paula Simmons
- 24 - Evan Casheros
- 25 - Stuart Hughes
- 26 - Chris Ellmers
- 26 - Bill Forloine
- 26 - Kelli Dugan
- 30 - Daniel Wyatt

### Anniversaries

- 5 - Lauris & Tom Zeni
- 6 - Stephanie & Michael Delk
- 9 - Sandy & Gary Harvey

- 12 - Georgia Irby-Massie & Keith Massie
- 13 - Nancy & Steve Snyder
- 16 - Rebecca & Alan Zoellner
- 17 - MariBeth & Alan Brittle
- 17 - Betty & Bill Harrison
- 18 - Jennie & Jeff Seiler
- 24 - Donna & Paul Casanave
- 26 - Louanne & Tom Martin
- 27 - Erika & Prince Butler
- 27 - Bunky & Rick Garfield
- 29 - Linda & Jim McGee

If your birthday or anniversary is this month and you are not listed above, please send the appropriate information to [nansteve13@cox.net](mailto:nansteve13@cox.net) or call us at (804) 557-3175.



## Vestry Highlights

### Eve Butler-Gee Register

The Vestry of Hickory Neck Church was assembled in regular session on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, in the Parish House. The minutes of the April, 2007 Vestry meeting and the Treasurer's report were both approved. The Senior Warden, Fred Boelt, presided over the meeting in Father Michael's absence. According to Vestry bylaws, the Vestry approved the appointment of Melissa Casheros to the Vestry, filling out this year's term of office vacated by Katrina Lukovsky's move to Florida. Subsequently, Melissa was sworn in as a new Vestry member. The Junior Warden discussed some ideas for a new and

expandable pictorial parish directory. The Senior Warden reported that defibrillator training had begun with eight people trained. The Associate Rector reported that all are invited to attend the Sunday School Teacher and Student recognition which will take place on Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> between services at 10:15 a.m. Maria Kane will teach a class on the Gospel of John on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> after which there will be a short class break in July, resuming again in August. The spaghetti dinners sold out this year, with approximately \$400 raised for Relay for Life. A Diocesan youth leader gathering will take place at Hickory Neck Church on May 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at either the Parish House or in the Narthex, depending on attendance numbers. The Vestry received reports from the Christian Formation and Youth Committees. Questions for the forthcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> flight of the Parish Visioning Process group meetings were discussed as were the ongoing repairs to the organ and funding for the second phase of organ restoration. The next regular meeting of the Vestry will be on Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Please note that the official minutes of the May Vestry Meeting will be approved at the June meeting and published on the church web page following that meeting.



### Baptisms

Miles Mitchell Lampert

### Transfers Out of the Parish

Liz & Joe Hagy (moving to North Carolina)

## Organ Fund Drive Update

**Ed Godshall**  
**Organist and Choirmaster**

I am pleased to announce that the Easter collection for the repair of the organ has paid for the repairs in Phase 1 of the organ project. Central Pipe Organ Services of Bentonville, Virginia spent two weeks in May working on the organ. The first week they specifically targeted the action. I was amazed to be shown where there had been no lubrication placed on the organ originally. These were places where wood was rubbing directly against leather causing a great deal of friction and helping to explain why the touch was so heavy. These places have now been lubricated with the appropriate compound (graphite and mutton tallow). The action works really smoothly now and the keys no longer feel like they could break my fingers.

The second week was spent “revoicing” the pipes. This is a fascinating procedure of which to watch and listen. A series of pipes is chosen with which to work. The pipes are played one after the other and then it’s determined which ones are too loud or too soft or have the wrong sound. Each pipe with problems is removed individually and worked on in the hands of the skilled technicians -- the metal or wood is manipulated, the toe opening is enlarged or made smaller. It is then replaced and compared aurally with the others in the series. It may be just right, or it may need to be removed and worked on again until it sounds exactly as the technician thinks it should. Organ technicians have extraordinarily percept-

ive ears! The results of the “revoicing” were heard for the first time on Ascension Day.

The Vestry of Hickory Neck was delighted to find that the organ fund took in several thousand more dollars than needed for these Phase 1 repairs and has decided to go ahead with Phase 2 of the organ project. Phase 2 involves the addition of a stop called Open Diapason to the Great (the lower keyboard of the instrument). This would have been the most important original stop on the organ as built in 1901. It disappeared sometime during the organ’s odyssey going from the convent where it was originally housed; to the Roman Catholic chapel; to storage; and then on to Old Donation, Virginia Beach. The addition of this stop will be a real boon to the sound palate of the instrument, giving it a fuller sound particularly for accompanying hymns. The cost of this addition is just over \$12,000. As of this writing the organ fund has taken in over half of this amount.

There is a three month lead time on the installation of this stop. It must be ordered from a pipe making company and be put on their sched-

ule of pipes to be made. Constructing a set of organ pipes is the job of very skilled craftsmen and there are far fewer pipe making shops than there are organ building firms, so these shops often have back logs of work orders, hence the three month waiting time. This shop will also build the wind chest that the pipes stand on. (A website with photos of the creation of metal organ pipes can be seen at: [http://www.ruffatti.com/ruffatti\\_pipes.html](http://www.ruffatti.com/ruffatti_pipes.html)). However, this waiting time will give us the opportunity to raise the additional four thousand dollars we need to complete the project. Contributions can still be made by check to Hickory Neck by indicating “organ fund” on the “for” line of the check. I am very pleased that the people of Hickory Neck have thought this project to be of such importance that they are willing to support it. A big thank you from the organist to all those who have made contributions to the organ fund to provide a better sounding instrument as well as one that plays as well as it should!



Treasurer's Report

(as of 4/30/2007)

YTD Budget Income	\$113,752.32
YTD Actual Income	\$120,788.46
YTD Budget Expenses	\$113,752.32
YTD Actual Expenses	\$121,038.66
Loan Balances	\$623,150.00
(as of 5-1-07)	



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*"Rooted in history and embracing the future, through Christ"*

### **Slow Moving Car ...** (continued from page 1)

comes next.

If I am a slow moving car in the left hand lane, I can move over into the other lane. I can speed up and enjoy the thrill of a fast-paced ride through life. Or I can pull off at a rest stop and take a breather. Maybe there's a right and wrong response to a particular circumstance or event; we don't always know that, not in real time anyway. But the beauty of it is, that response is ours - mine and yours - ours and God's.

## **Nugget Notes**

On Sunday morning, June 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish House, we will recognize teachers and students in our Sunday school program. Many things happen on the second floor of the Parish House on any given Sunday morning, as teachers and children gather to learn what it means to be a follower of Jesus. On this morning we'll have the opportunity to glimpse some of that, as well as celebrate the efforts of the teachers and children. Please join us!

Once again this summer, Hickory Neck, St. Martin's, and Bruton Parish are combining forces. From Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, through

Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, St. Martin's will be transformed into a western ranch for Vacation Bible School. From 9:00 a.m. to Noon, youngsters from 3 years old through rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to "come horse around" at Avalanche Ranch for a "wild ride" through God's Word. Registration forms are available at the church so your "little doggie" can "join the herd". We need adults and teens to become "ranch hands." We need lots of "wranglers" to be "campfire storytellers" and share wild Bible adventure stories, be on the "chuck wagon" (snack) team, be on the "horseplay" (recreation) team, help make "cowpoke memories" (crafts), share musical talents as part of the "sing & dance stampede," organize the Operation Kid-to-Kid Mission Project, direct or participate in the "Wild West Theater", or take pictures for a PowerPoint "roundup." We also need "trail bosses", "cowpokes", and "corral sentries" to care for groups of

"little doggies." If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact **Paula Simmons** at [P.M.C.Simmons@verizon.net](mailto:P.M.C.Simmons@verizon.net) or 564-7998.

Shrine Mont 2007 convenes July 15-19 in Orkney Springs, Virginia. The theme is Mending the Sacred Hoop: The Significance, Failure and Promise of Jamestown. Cost for the 4 day conference is \$399.00. Registration brochures are available at the Parish House.

On Sunday mornings, June 3rd, 17th and 24th, at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish House, Ms. Maria Kane will lead us in a study of the Gospel according to St. John. Bring your own Bible!

### **In the Spotlight** (continued from page 3)

point, Lauris has discovered that her experience and talents will probably be used in a ministry of healing.

## **NUGGETS STAFF**

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**July Deadline - June 15th**