

THE



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# INFORMER

The Informer is the official publication of the South Carolina State Association of Original Free Will Baptists, Inc.

Address all correspondence to  
Rev Mike Jones P O Box 13266, Florence, SC 29504  
(843) 662-5010 Email: Mike@scfwb.com

## STATE MEETING QUOTES:

(The Preaching at this Year's State Meeting was very good. Here are a few quotes from the Sermons and Devotions)

- Live so that it is easy for me to preach your funeral.
- Lots of folks are in church but they are in trouble spiritually because they would rather be conformed to the Church than transformed by the power of God.
- Many people do not enjoy Christianity because they have substituted the people of God for God.
- You are only as good as you are when you are alone with God.
- We always pray best when we are desperate.
- You don't need power to play God you need power to be godly.
- If it is not in the well then it will not come up when you let down the bucket.
- There is cost in Pentecost

(Brother Roy Roach) - I know 2 Greek words, Hogwash and Bologna.



Copies of the Messages and Devotions from the State Meeting are available from the SCFWB State Office. Cost is \$5 per tape.

If you enjoyed Brother Glen Johnson's Thursday Night message then listen to the Revival messages he preached the following week at Lesslie FWB Church at [www.lesslifewb.org](http://www.lesslifewb.org)

## GREAT STATE MEETING

The consistent comment heard by the State Executive Secretary in recent weeks has been that this year's State Meeting was an exceptional good meeting. The Preaching, the Singing, the Food, the Fellowship, the Business, and the way everything seemed to go so smoothly all combined to bless hearts and allow us to finish by noon on Friday (This is getting to be a habit!).

Especially appreciated was the great job done by Pastor Larry McAlister, Gilead FWB Church, and the Eastern Conference. They were exceptional hosts and they are to be commended for their good work.



Here are a few Highlights:

- One of the first business items was the report of the Children's Home audit by a representative of Rabon and Rabon Certified Public Accountants. A clean audit was presented and everyone was so satisfied until not a single question was asked about the finances of the Children's Home.
- The Relocation Study Proposal presented by the State Executive Secretary was approved with the added provision that State Moderator, Sherwood Lee; Children's Home Board Director, Tim Hackett; and the State Executive Secretary hold preliminary meetings to research the proposal before the entire committee meets. The Full Motion is on Page 3.



State Moderator, Sherwood Lee asks for any questions after the presentation of the Children's Home audit

- The Church Representation fee was increased from \$165 to \$175 beginning in 2007 with conferences asked to consider the possibility of increasing to \$200 per church.
- All of the present officers were re-elected for 2007- See Page 3
- A Constitutional change to allow printing of the State Constitution only when changes occur was approved.
- The 2007 SCFWB State Meeting will be Feb. 22-23 at Temple FWB Church of Darlington (SC Conference as Host).



Everyone was blessed by the special music of a group from Lighthouse FWB Church on Thursday Night.



Pastor Jacob Creech stands with his deacon board as Horse Branch FWB Church of Turbeville is presented a plaque for being the top contributor (\$108,041.61) through the S. C. Plan of Support for the 5th year in a row. Glory!



Pastor Rodney Wilson of New Vision FWB Church of Hemingway stands with his deacon board as they present a check for \$5000 to help the SCFWB Children's Home- Glory!



The State Executive Secretary attended the First FWB Church of Kingstree Sunday, February 12th for his annual visit to recognize those who had read the Bible through the previous year (Eric Adams, Ruby George, Betty Green, Juanita McClary, Inez Mouzon, Jean Ann Mouzon, Jim Snipes.).

After the Service Pastor Wayland Owens took me to see his new Pastor's Study prepared for him by the Church family to celebrate his 22 years as Pastor. Brother Wayland was surprised on Sunday, Oct 23, 2005 when his good friend, Rev. Larry McAlister arrived and said he was going to preach that day. After the service the Church presented Brother Wayland a box that looked like a new shirt. When he opened the box, however, he found the keys to the new office and a desk name tag. The Congregation then marched Brother Wayland down to a Sunday School room they had secretly remodeled into a marvelous office space.



Pastor Wayland Owens and the Church "Valentine Queen" present a check for \$162 to help with Missions.

Sunday, January 22, 2006 was designated as Johnnie Bullman day at Peace FWB Church of Spartanburg (The Church Brother Johnnie helped build and where he was Pastor until his sickness). Many friends and family members came out for this special day to share how this man of God had impacted their lives- and, gloriously, Brother Johnnie was well enough on this day to take part in the activities and hear how much people loved and appreciated him.

Here are a few excerpts from the various Testimonies-

- "I was Saved after hearing Preacher Bullman preach on radio. He was a hard preacher who taught me through tough love but he became a "father figure" to me who taught me to do right no matter what."

- "A man of sacrifice who did what he needed to do regardless of the cost. He worried about the outcast of society. I know because I was such an outcast."

- "I was saved because of the Bus Ministry. When I started coming to church I needed his hard preaching to keep me in line because of the hard living I had done before I was saved."

3 preachers who came out of Brother Bullman's ministry testified about him being their hero and helper with one stating that in the 10 years He had been under brother Johnnie's ministry he had seen his entire family saved- Glory!

[Note the State Resolution to encourage Brother Johnnie Bullman and his wonderful wife, Doris, on the back page of this edition]



The family of Rev. Johnnie Bullman (wheelchair) join with him in singing his favorite song as part of the celebration of "Johnnie Bullman Day" on Sunday, January 22, 2006 at Peace FWB Church of Spartanburg.





Pastor Ron Ogle congratulates Craig Altman upon his ordination on Sunday, January 29, 2006 as the newest deacon at Happy Home FWB Church of Andrews

**2006 SCFWB STATE OFFICERS**

- Moderator ..... Sherwood Lee (SC)
- Assistant Moderator ..... Buddy Seay (CA)
- Clerk ..... Todd Smith (BC)
- Assistant Clerk ..... Carol Bazen (SC)
- Treasurer ..... Marty Cox (CA)
- Assistant Treasurer ..... Mitch Edge (BC)
- Member at Large ..... Doug Mathis (EC)
- Member at Large ..... James Sanders (BC)

**RELOCATION PROPOSAL-** It was MSC to accept the following proposal regarding the potential of relocating the State Office to the FWB Home for Children campus in Turbeville, SC.

- 1) That a Committee be appointed at the 2006 State Association Meeting to determine the following:
  - A) Is there a need or desire to consider selling the 1705 South Irby Street property and relocating the SCFWB State Office to the SCFWB Property in Turbeville, SC.
  - B) What price range could be expected from the sale of the present property at 1705 S. Irby St.
  - C) What would be the cost of a new State Office Building located on the SCFWB Property at the SCFWB Children’s Home.
- 2) That this Committee consist of the SCFWB Executive Committee and the General Board member from each of the 6 state conferences.
- 3) That the expenses for the meetings of this committee (up to \$1000.00) be paid from the budget of the SCFWB State Office.
- 4) That this committee report back with a recommendation to the 2007 meeting of the SCFWB State Association.
- 5) That the Executive Secretary, Bro. Mike Jones, the moderator, Bro. Sherwood Lee, and the Home for Children Board Chairman, Bro. Tim Hackett collaborate together in starting the research and ground work concerning the logistics of relocating the State Office to the Children’s Home property

**2006 SCFWB State Meeting Attendance**

Ministers-	92
Delegates-	29
Visitors-	32
Total-	151

- 2006 SCFWB Field Directors**
- State Home Missions ..... Earl Hendrix (BC)
  - State Youth Ministries (Camp) ..... Cyrus Shoffner (SC)
  - State Youth Conference (CTS) ..... Bruce Kimbrell (SC)

News from High Hill FWB Church, Scranton (Submitted by Mrs. Teresia Coleman)

November 20th Our Ladies Hosted Thanksgiving Dinner for Our Church Family. As Always Everyone Had Plenty to Eat and the Fellowship Was Enjoyed by All.

December Was a Busy Month for Everyone but Somehow We Managed to Add a Few More Activities to Our Schedules. We Started the Month with a Trip to Charleston for Dinner and to See the Christmas Lights. The next Day Our Ladies Were Busy Feeding Us Again. Christmas Dinner Was Great as Always and Everyone Received a Christmas Gift. Then on December 18th Our Choir Performed Their Christmas Cantata for the Morning Worship Service. Our Evening Service Was Directed by Ms. Lisa Knotts and Our Young People. Lisa Not Only Directed the Play but Was One of the Main Actresses. There Were a Lot of Solos by Our Young People. (Thanks Again Lisa) Then to Round out the Month about 20 Members of Our Choir Went Christmas Caroling. They Went to Several Homes and Were Greeted with Food by the People They Sang To.

On February 9th Our Ladies Traveled to Pamplico FWB Church to Give a Rehearsal Dinner. The Dinner Was in Honor of Our Pastor, Reedy Severance, and His Bride, Ms. Annie Hutchinson. We Want to Congratulate Pastor Saverance and Ms. Annie on Their Marriage on February 11.



Rev Royce Horne (along with Rev Elro Driggers) “tied the knot” for Rev Reedy and Annie Saverance on Saturday, Feb. 11 at Pamplico FWB Church

## WAC (Women Active for Christ- Women's Auxiliaries) News.

The **Central District WAC** met on Saturday, February 18th at Little Star FWB Church, Johnsonville using the theme "God's Hands Upon Us" from Nehemiah 2:18. Special Speaker was Mrs. Carla Fannin, Wife of Rev. Chris Fannin (Lebanon FWB Church) and Daughter of Roy and Paula Roach (SCFWB Children's Home).



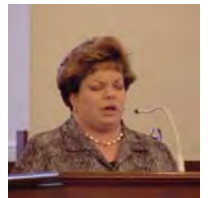
The Central District Mother-Daughter Banquet will be May 6, 2006 (Location to be announced) and their Prayer & Praise Rally will be Nov 18, 2006 at Oak Grove FWB Church, Conway. Mrs. Patricia Powell is the CDWAC Coordinator.



The **South Carolina Conference District WAC** met on Saturday, February 25, 2006 at Sand Hill FWB Church of Coward using the theme "Sowing Precious Seed. The word of God" from Psalm 126:6 and Luke 8:11. The Church was completely full to listen to Special Speaker Mrs. Tempe Brown. Mrs. Brown gave her testimony (which kept the ladies in laughter and tears) during the Devotion time and then shared an encouraging message at 11:00am.

The SC District Mother Daughter Banquet will be May 6, 2006 at Temple FWB Church of Darlington and their Prayer & Praise Rally will be November 11, 2006 at the SCFWB Children's Home. Mrs. Carolyn Riddick is the SCWAC Coordinator.

The **Beaver Creek Conference District WAC** met on Saturday, March 4, 2006 at Parkway FWB Church of Boiling Springs using the theme- "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake" from Psalm 23:3b. The Church was full with more ladies attending this District WAC meeting than Ministers and Delegates who attended the 2006 State Meeting (!). And they just keep growing with THREE NEW WAC groups joining at this meeting- Promise FWB Church WAC, Greer FWB Church WAC, and Turning Point FWB Church WAC. Mrs. Joyce Bowers is Coordinator of this growing group.



Special Speaker for this meeting was Mrs. Dena Cordell, Wife of Pastor Clay Cordell (Canaan), who had put together a special slide presentation showing Past and Present Pictures of the 8 mission churches that had been started by the Beaver Creek Conference- Greenville, Greenwood, Inman, Chesnee, Landmark (Anderson), Greer, Calvary (Union), Gaffney. What a great Presentation - and what a blessing to see how God has worked.

The 2007 Beaver Creek WAC will meet on Saturday, March 3rd at First FWB Church of Greenville.

**The STATE WAC MEETING will be Saturday, March 18, 2006 at First FWB Church of Inman.**

**NOTE-** I wish room and the ability to print color pictures would allow you to see how beautifully decorated the Churches and Fellowship buildings were for these WAC meetings. The Ladies do an exceptional job of preparing for their meetings and it is a shame that everyone cannot see all the hard work that goes into what they do for the Lord.



**The National Association of Free Will Baptists will meet in Birmingham, AL. July 16-19, 2006.** Hotel Information was published in "One" Magazine and is available on a link at [www.scfwb.com](http://www.scfwb.com). Reservations cannot be made before 9:00am (Central Time) Monday, April 3, 2006 but should be made as soon as possible after that. We are expecting Record attendance this year.

The **2006 NAFWB Yearbook** is being distributed to churches by Conference Clerks (Normally at the Conference meeting). The National Executive Office provides **ONE** copy of the yearbook per church. Additional copies can be purchased from the SCFWB Christian Book Store (\$11.99).

The Yearbook contains minutes of the 2005 National Association Meeting as well as church and pastor information for all the NAFWB Churches in the United States.

The churches listed in the Yearbook are the Churches submitted to the IRS as non profit organizations under the "umbrella" of the National Association. Contact the SCFWB State Office about any corrections for SCFWB churches.

New Prospect Christian School, a ministry of New Prospect FWB Church, will have their annual Open House and Registration on March 28, 2006 beginning at 7:30 PM. This gives an opportunity for parents of current students as well as perspective students to view the school and meet the staff as well as enroll and register for the 2006-2007 school year. Administration will be available to answer questions and assist with any needs or concerns that people may have.



Also on this night New Prospect Christian School will host their annual Book Fair. Anyone may purchase books, posters, stationery, and other miscellaneous items. If you have any questions, please call (843) 493-2189 between 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM Monday - Friday. Rev. Alan Sailors is the Pastor.

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### North Spartanburg FWB Church News- Submitted by Pastor Russell McCoy:

We are hoping for a great year this year here at North Spartanburg. God is starting to work in our church. We are beginning to have more youth attending and we have a new choir leader and piano player.

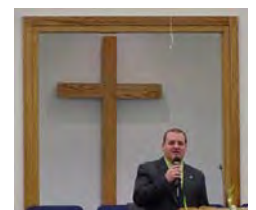


We have hosted for almost a year, the "Kingdom Christian Academy" that holds school in our fellowship hall each Wednesday night. The classes are for people who dropped out of school for whatever reason who desire to have a high school diploma. They attend classes for 7 weeks. They have private tutoring to help them get their education. The youngest has been 17, and the oldest 61. At the end of their 7 weeks, we have a graduation program for them at the church. The ones that graduate wear their cap and gowns just like regular high school graduations. There is a church ceremony as well as their receiving their diplomas. We have seen close to 70 people graduate, and at one graduation we had over 400 in attendance. Praise God it was wonderful to see that many people in GOD's house at one time.

Also, for about six months now we have been sharing our sanctuary with "The Ukrainian Church." We could not understand them nor they us, so we have split services. The Holy Spirit is so strong. When we attend, they have an interpreter for us. It is AWESOME. Their attendance is about 60 on Sunday's and close to 40 on prayer meeting night, and around 20 on youth night. They are so gracious. Constantly thanking us for helping them to have a place to worship GOD. We, as Americans, take it for granted. One should just listen to their testimonies about how it was in their country and how glad they are to be here.



Converse FWB Church was organized May 27, 1956 in an old furniture store building in Converse. The church remained there until the early 1960s when the existing building was built on the corner of Cherry Hill and Old Converse roads. The basement was built first and the upper floor was added later and served as the permanent sanctuary. Rev. Todd Black was called as the seventh pastor in November of 2002 and immediately passed on a vision of growth



Pastor Todd Black provided Special Music on Opening Day

through keeping Christ first, having healthy biblically trained families, and soul winning. That is why more than 125 souls have come to know Christ as their Savior during the past three years.

Not only were lives changed but many families have been repaired, which led to the church changing its name to Turning Point FWB Church. Property was purchased in April of 2004 for a new church, and construction of the 11,000 square-foot facility began in March of 2005. The new building has a 300-seat sanctuary, office space, 10 classrooms, and a kitchen and fellowship hall. Including property, the building, and the furnishings the Church has a \$1 million campus situated just off the north intersection of Interstate 85 and Business 85, Spartanburg.

Turning Point had their first service in the new building on Sunday, Jan 22, 2006 with 7 souls saved (Glory!) and record attendance in Sunday School and the Worship Service.





Una FWB Church “Through the Bible Club- Active since 1997



2004: 1-r- Rev. Ed Bryant, Betty Revels, Pastor Kenneth Cash, Helen Gosnell, Emma Dellinger, Westley Dellinger, Lila M Jackson



2005: 1-r- Tonya Stanley, Jean Wyatt, Rev. Ed Bryant, Lila M Jackson, Pastor Kenneth Cash, Betty Revels, Jeff Dyson, Debra Edgins, Jacqueline Barbare (newest member at 9 years old!)



Darlington Pastors (l-r) Todd Parrish, Cyrus Shoffner, Jody Wynn, and Leroy Lowery welcome Hispanic Pastor Josue as he begins a new Hispanic work using the facilities of Faith FWB Church, Darlington and living in a home provided by the FWB Bible Church. This ministry is under the oversight of Hispanic Missionary, Fernando Bustamante.



Oak Grove News- The youth and senior citizens of Oak Grove FWB Church recently teamed up for a valentine King and Queen Banquet. It was a wonderful success as they joined together to raise around \$2,000. The highlight of the banquet was the fun time and games led by Preacher Tommy Bryson and his wife, Wanda.

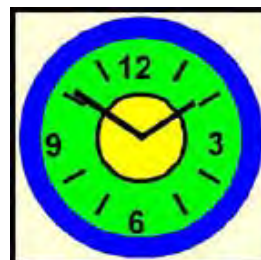


The members of First FWB Church of Darlington had a Valentine fellowship and crowned their Interim Pastor Ron Moore and his wife Linda as “King and Queen”. The group had a good time of fellowship- including getting the men to try to eat a pretzel hanging from a string blindfolded!

Preacher J W Hyman and his wife, Nora were crowned as king and queen with Ronald and Iris Jordan as runner up. Chase Parker, Alex Johnson, and Arron Evans were named as Church Princes with Kim Johnson and Erica Rabon named Church Princesses. Arron Evans was the largest fund raiser with \$451.00. What a Prince. He was the smallest but we all know big things come in small packages. Submitted by Rhonda Hucks, Senior Citizens Director, Oak Grove FWB Church, Conway.

- and enjoyed the finger food provided by the ladies.

Pastor Ron and Linda have been ministering at First Church for a few months and already there has been growth in Sunday School and the preaching services. The church is still seeking God’s Will for a full time pastor. (Submitted by Mrs. Mary Byrd).



Remember to put the annual “Time Change to Change a Child” Offering for the SCFWB Children’s Home on your calendar- Sunday, October 29th. Let’s see how soon the Children’s Home can be debt free and moving forward for Christ and Children.

This is Issue 6 of Volume 1 of "At Your Service", an email publication of the FWB Board of Retirement. The information provided in this issue is so useful to churches until it is being reprinted.



### A Gift That Keeps on Giving

Has giving to your pastor on Pastor Appreciation Sunday become a chore? How many more suits does he need? Does giving him a gift certificate to a nice restaurant really signify the appreciation that you have for all his dedicated service? Besides, do you realize that all those gifts are taxable income to the pastor and their value must be reported on his W-2 form as Box 1 income? Even a "love offering" taken on Pastor Appreciation Sunday, where members write checks payable to the local church and then the church provides one check to the pastor, is taxable income to the pastor and must be reported on his W-2 tax form from the church.

All of these tax rules leave many churches looking for a better solution to bless their pastor now and in the future – and without the gifts being taxable. The Board of Retirement has just the solution. Consider making either a one time gift or continuing monthly gifts to your pastor's Retirement Account. It will truly be a gift that keeps on giving.

One-time gifts are rather simple. The church can either designate a particular amount in their annual budget for pastor appreciation or they can take up an offering for such. The amount designated or given can then be forwarded to the Board of Retirement in the pastor's name as a contribution from the church. The special pastor's appreciation contribution, plus the regular contributions sent to the Board of Retirement for the pastor's retirement account, can be up to \$44,000 in 2006.

Besides giving a one-time gift, the church should also consider increasing their monthly contribution to the pastor's retirement account. While we suggest that the local church contribute a minimum of five percent (5%) of the pastor's compensation to his retirement account, the church might consider making an additional contribution for each year he serves the church. For example, after a pastor has served the church longer than three years, the church could increase his retirement plan contribution by one percent (1%) each year. Therefore, a pastor who has served a church for 10 years would be receiving an annual retirement contribution of 12% of his compensation.

A gift made by the church to the pastor's retirement account, whether such is a one-time gift or an additional amount given each month, is not taxable to the pastor at the time the contribution is made. As long as the funds stay in the pastor's retirement account, the earnings on the contributions are also not taxable. And finally, if the pastor takes distributions from his account in retirement and uses those distributions for housing expenses, even that amount can be shielded from tax liability because of its' status as ministerial housing allowance. In essence, the church's gift has appreciated in value over the years and is still not taxable to the retired pastor in retirement. What a tremendous way to bless your pastor with a tax-free gift. It truly is a gift that keeps on giving.

The evidence is indisputable that churches see their greatest growth with pastors who have served the church for longer than 10 years. So to see your church grow, you should take care of your pastor. He certainly is worthy of such blessings.

Ray Lewis, General Director, Board of Retirement & Insurance

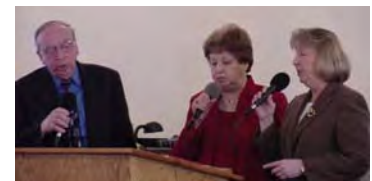
[The Board of Trustees and the staff of the Board of Retirement & Insurance are not engaged in rendering financial advice, legal advice, or other financial planning services. If such advice is desired or required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.]



Hickory Hill FWB Church of Gresham has a 15 passenger van for sale. Contact Pastor Frank Sedgwick at (843) 621-1197 (Cell) for more information.



Perfect attendance pins were distributed ranging from 29 years in a row (L) to a first year (R)



Special music was provided by Pastor Johnnie Evans with his wife, Lossie and Sister, Merry.

Mill Branch FWB Church of Johnsonville celebrated their 43rd anniversary on Sunday, March 5th. The Church was begun after a youth led revival in a community tobacco pack house and now has a large sanctuary, many SS rooms, and a large fellowship building.



South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptists  
Rev Mike Jones, Executive Secretary  
P O Box 13266 Florence, SC 29504  
WWW.SCFWB.Com (843) 662-5010



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## 2006 SCFWB RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT:

- 1) Whereas the South Carolina State Association of Free Will Baptist opposes hate crimes and hate speech, and sexual crimes against children, Be It Resolved that we instruct our State Association Clerk to send a letter to Senator Jim DeMint, and Senator Lindsay Graham, and President Bush asking them to oppose adding sexual orientation to the federal hate crime because it would give homosexuals leverage to charge Christians with hate speech. We also instruct our State Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the State Executive Secretary for him to put in The Informer, and to the National Association Executive Office.
- 2) Be It Resolved, that in Keeping Up With The Father's Business, that we encourage our churches to get into a Soul Winning Program that will enable them to reach their communities for Christ. Souls Are Crying, Men Are Dying, Win The Lost At Any Cost.
- 3) Be It Resolved that we instruct our clerk to send a letter of Encouragement to Rev. Johnnie Bullman, and his wife.
- 4) Be It Resolved, that we give the Gilead FWB Church, and The Eastern Conference a rising vote of Thanks for the Outstanding job they did in hosting The South Carolina State Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Resolutions Committee - Harry Cooper (SC) Chairman, Chris Todd (BC), Wayne Smith (PC), Tommy Bryson (CA), Doug Western (BC), Doug Mathis (EC)

The Alabama Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Eldridge, Alabama is taking applications for General Director. This position is for the general management of the Home as well as being responsible for all promotional activities.

Contact the SCFWB State Office for more details.

### NYC Judges

The FWB National Youth Conference is expanding its database of competition judges. If you have experience in any of the events of the competition, please consider spending a morning or afternoon session sharing your experience with our youth. Download the Judges' Application form at [www.FWBNYC.com](http://www.FWBNYC.com).

In order to allow historians to more accurately track the "Informer" we have changed to an "Edition" method of identifying each issue published. According to Dr. Robert Picirilli of the National FWB Historical Commission the first edition of the "Informer" that they have records for was in late 1970 or early 1971. There are many years that we have no records of any publications but we are going to use 1971 as the starting point and call this the 35th year of publication- Hence this is Volume 35 Number 2 (The January Issue would have been Volume 35 Number 1).

**If you have any issues of the "Informer" dated before 2000 then please consider donating them to the SCFWB Historical Collection. They will be scanned into PDF format for viewing on the WEB and kept in our Historical area.**