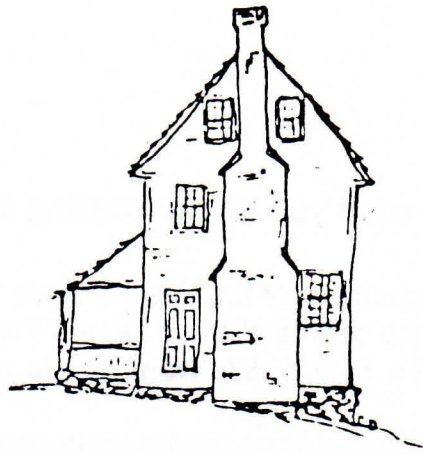




FESTIVITIES AT THE FRANKLINS'—1823

presented by the Surry County Historical Society

MAY 4-5, 2000 AT 6:30 AND 8:00 P.M.

Cast

in order of appearance

Introduction - Cama Merritt

Milly Edwards Franklin - Jane Tesh

Meshack Franklin - David Bradley

Uncle Davy Lane - Mike Lowe

Hardin "Skitt" Taliaferro - Logan Draughn

Written and directed by Arnold Wengrow

Producer - David Bradley

Stage manager - David Crawford

Sound and lighting - Robert Merritt

Costumes - Bonnie Stuart

Properties - Charles and Shirley Dugger, Ruth Minick, Cama Merritt

Gingy cakes - Pansy Broughton, Virginia Crowell, Claire Smith, Bonnie Stuart,

With assistance of Linda Stanfield, Pat Miller, Judy Driver

It is a spring afternoon in 1823. Milly and Meshack Franklin, the owners of the Edwards-Franklin House, are busy with their chores on their large plantation. Here, in the house which was built by Milly's father, Gideon Edwards, in 1799, Milly is tending her sick child. Charles and Sallie Taliaferro, neighbors and relations, drop in on their way home from a visit to Meshack's brother Jesse. With them is their young son, Skitt. Uncle Davy Lane, a farmer, hunter, and owner of a mill, stops by to see Mr. Franklin. Skitt is intrigued by the tall tales for which Uncle Davy is famous.

The Franklins and the Taliaferros and their neighbors in the Fisher River valley were a community of prominent planter families that included two of Meshack's brothers, Jesse and Shadrack. Jesse Franklin had just completed two years as governor of North Carolina. Besides Meshack and Milly Franklin and their children, this handsome house was also home to some 40 African-American slaves. In our play the Franklins and the Taliaferros are based on historical research. Uncle Davy Lane is a real-life character out of *Fisher's River Scenes and Characters*, the 1859 book of humorous stories that Skitt Taliaferro wrote from recollections of his childhood here.

We want you on our mailing list!

If you are already a member of the Surry County Historical Society, you receive information about the events at the Edwards-Franklin House and other programs and projects of the society. **We want you to have this information.**

Also, we need your help to keep the Edwards-Franklin House in good repair and to continue to collect, preserve and share the heritage of Surry County.

For a contribution of \$10 you will be placed on our mailing list and you will help us collect and save our local history.

Please fill out the form below and send it with your check to our treasurer.

2000 MEMBERSHIP

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C/O RUTH MINICK, TREASURER
341 FRANKLIN STREET
MOUNT AIRY, NC 27030

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