

The book is written in first person in a very informal style. The author relied on personal interviews and taped recordings for much of the book. Also interspersed are the texts of letters that Peterson wrote or received, and passages from some of the many newspaper articles written about her. The book is illustrated with personal photographs of Peterson. There are a few typographical errors in the text, mostly minor spelling or punctuation mistakes.

Peterson discusses her belief in reincarnation and intuition several times, which is one interest the biographer and his subject share. Kevin Todeschi is the author of numerous books on Edgar Cayce, dream interpretation, reincarnation, and other metaphysical subjects.

This book would be suitable for public libraries, especially those in the High Point area and the western part of the state. (Peterson spent her early years in West Virginia.) Academic libraries with women's studies programs might also find the book relevant.

Shannon Tennant
Elon University

Keiser, Albert Jr. and Angela May.

From Tavern to Town, Revisited: An Architectural History of Hickory, North Carolina.

Hickory, N.C.: Hickory Landmarks Society, 2004.
230 pp.

Known as Hickory Tavern until 1873, Hickory, North Carolina began as a late nineteenth-century trading center on the Western North Carolina Railroad. Its rapid economic and physical growth in the late 1800s and early 1900s led to the building of many beautiful and impressive structures. However, of the 2,600 houses, churches, schools, business and other buildings in Hickory in existence 100 years ago, fewer than 300 have survived to the present day. In this revision of the 1988 *From Tavern to Town*, the authors give an architectural and historical review of Hickory and discuss the history and legacy of historic preservation.

The original book was the result of a 1983-1984 inventory of Hickory's older structures. Since that edition, many buildings have been demolished or moved; the authors have identified additional historic places; and new information and updated images have been made of existing structures. In this new edition, the authors revisit all of the buildings from the first publication, provide detailed information on newly designated historic structures, and include an essay, "Preserving Historic Hickory: A Broader Vision." There is a thorough notes section (with detailed bibliographic references) and an index of all the properties. This well-illustrated and thoroughly-researched volume would be a valuable addition to public, school, academic and special libraries in the western part of the state.

Joan F. Ferguson
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Robert F. Irwin.

40 years: 1964-2004, 40 Years of Painting.

Valle Crucis, N.C.: Dancingfish Press, 2004.
ISBN 1-87980240-6.

Robert Irwin had a one-time gig as a model in a 1979 Winston Cup racing billboard. He elates in this 40 year retrospective of his work that "Models age out, artists just get better!" This statement proves true as the work chronicles the life of Irwin first as a Commercial Art graduate of the University of Georgia, then as a designer for both the Georgia Historical Commission and the North Carolina Museum of History. After a brief period as Art Instructor in the North Carolina Community College System, Irwin founded his own company, Images, Inc., specializing in contract furniture. Early in the 1990s Robert moved back into painting and, for a brief period, sculpture. A bypass operation in 1995-96 led him back to two areas he loved: painting and coastal North Carolina. A doctor friend of his joked as he was going in for the operation, "Irwin, if you smoked or was overweight or drank, I could help you, but as it is, you're shit out of luck."

Irwin's post-bypass work reflects a lot of what we are familiar with: coastal North Carolina Scenes, boats, rural life, his dog "Chess." He works in watercolor, oil on board, and acrylic on canvas. The book is an impressive display of his life's work. Throughout the book Irwin weaves his other interests into work: his parents, his family, his work bringing art to the inmates at the North Carolina Central Prison, his interest his sloop "Emotional Rescue." Irwin illustrates the book with wonderful photographs of family and places that played important roles in the development of his work. The book ends with a revealing rear end shot of Chess making his way out a dog door. North Carolina librarians will want to make this charming retrospective work of this major North Carolina artist available to all their patrons.

Ralph Scott
East Carolina University

celebrations, the creation of a village fire department, the building of a community church, and the mixed blessings that followed from the decision to turn a farm field into the Shuffletown drag strip. Customs concern such topics as disciplining children, homegrown medical treatments, and overseeing the passing on of skills to the young. Daily comforts focus on food, storytelling, childhood play, and shared hard work. Indeed, most readers will be struck by the prodigious efforts demanded of these rural families who had to be nearly self-sufficient. That they usually succeeded is a testament to their determination and to their willingness to share each another's burdens.

Rozelle has been a freelance writer since 1971. *Shuffletown, USA* is her first book. It is not a documentary history nor is it historical fiction. Rozelle's purpose, as she suggests in her elliptically-written introduction, is to capture the essence of shared memories. In that she has succeeded, *Shuffletown, USA* is a good choice for academic and public libraries and should be on the reading list of anyone interested in life in the Charlotte area.

Mary C. Metzger
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Sarah R. Shaber, editor.

Tar Heel Dead.

Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005.
259pp. \$15.95 ISBN 0-8078-5604-5.

Even N.C. State and Duke fans will enjoy reading this collection of mystery short stories, with its title aptly inspired by the Carolina fight song: "I'm a Tar Heel born, I'm a Tar Heel bred, and when I die, I'm a Tar Heel dead." Editor Sarah Shaber is the author of the award-winning *Simon Said*, the first book in her Professor Simon Shaw mystery series. Another award-winning North Carolina mystery author, Margaret Maron, writes the foreword.

All of the authors featured in the collection are either North Carolina natives, current residents, or have spent a significant amount of time in the state. Of the eighteen stories in the collection, eight take place in North Carolina. While a few stories could be set almost anywhere, the majority convey a uniquely southern sense of place. Interestingly, four of the stories feature secondary librarian characters or a useful bit of library research.

The stories range from traditional "whodunit" mysteries to those with a more psychological twist. Several of the stories are written by authors who specialize in other genres. The length and age of the stories also varies, ranging from a short classic by O. Henry to a longer piece by science fiction writer Orson Scott Card. The most recent story, by Sarah Shaber, features her character Simon Shaw. Kathy Hogan Trochek's Atlanta detective Callahan Garrity checks in as well, and Margaret Maron revisits the same Colleton County, N.C., featured in her Deborah Knott series.

Ms. Shaber has assembled an interesting collection of sometimes hard-to-find stories highlighting the diversity and readability of this historically popular format. Her inclusion of both popular and lesser-known North Carolina writers has inspired this reviewer to try some new authors during her next library visit.

Suitable for public libraries, and libraries with North Carolina and/or mystery collections, *Tar Heel Dead* is a fun way for mystery lovers to sample North Carolina authors.

Bonnie Spiers
State Library of North Carolina

Kevin J. Todeschi.

One Woman's Century: The Remarkable Story of Angela Marsh Peterson (1902-2000).

Boone, N.C.: Parkway Publishers, 2005.
243 pp. \$19.95. ISBN 1-887905-38-3.

What makes a person's life worth writing about? Many biographies are written about important political, military, or literary figures. But what about those people who live lives full of interest but in relative obscurity?

Angela Marsh Peterson, the subject of a new biography by Kevin J. Todeschi, may be best known as the founder of the Peterson Doll and Miniature Museum, located in the Convention and Visitors Bureau

building in High Point, N.C. But the book reveals that she lived a varied and fascinating life, including "nearly every experience available to a twentieth century woman." She was a wife and a mother. She was a teacher and a recreation director at a base in Korea. She started one of the first senior centers in the country. She ran a tourist agency in Turkey and traveled the world. She was raped and she was divorced. She battled illness all her life, including undiagnosed polio, and ended her days in a nursing home.

The book is divided into five parts, corresponding to the stages of Peterson's life. Part I follows Peterson's girlhood, and Part II details her marriage. Part III discusses her military service in Korea and elsewhere. Part IV describes her time in Turkey, and Part V is about her retirement to North Carolina and life in the nursing home. Peterson is frank and amusing about her experiences, especially those with her different admirers. The glimpses of small-town life in the early 1900s are especially captivating. The final section in the nursing home, which Peterson did not want included, details the sufferings and humiliations of an independent woman in a truly heart-wrenching way.

Without the efforts of women like Ann Atwater and the organizations they led, the large-scale demonstrations, boycotts, and legal campaigns of the Civil Rights Movement would not have been as successful. Greene's in-depth study of Durham will no doubt spark similar research in other communities where grassroots organizing took place, giving readers a clearer picture of the mass organizational efforts that shaped the Civil Rights movement.

Christina Greene is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and former Director of the Duke-UNC Center for Research on Women. *Our Separate Ways*, which includes extensive notes, a bibliography, and an index, is truly groundbreaking scholarship, and is a must-read for those interested in the history of the Civil Rights Movement, Women's Studies, North Carolina, and the American South. This work is highly recommended for large public libraries and academic libraries.

Emily B. Gore
East Carolina University

Stephen Kirk.

*Scribblers: Stalking the
Authors of Appalachia.*

Winston-Salem, N.C.: 2004.
248 pp. ISBN 0-89587-307-9.

Scribblers is an exploration of the current Asheville area literary scene, looking at both the established writers to come out of the area and the current crop of struggling would-be authors. Stephen Kirk, who works as an editor at John F. Blair, states his objective at the outset: "I want to examine the writer's urge as manifest in flesh-and-blood scribblers, whether they be great or humble, successful or failed, recognized or frustrated I'd like to know why writers think they can take their mostly mundane experiences and ideas and create something of value."

Making regular trips from his home in Winston-Salem to Asheville, Kirk joined a writer's group and interviewed many of the successful authors in the region. *Scribblers* contains thoughtful and appreciative profiles of Fred Chappell, Robert Morgan, Sharyn McCrumb, Gail Godwin, Charles Price, Ann B. Ross, Jan Karon, and Joan Medlicott. All of these sketches include the details of each writer's beginnings, which provide nice contrasts to the stories of the aspiring authors in Kirk's group.

One of the best sections of the book is the opening romp through Asheville's literary past, filled with juicy gossip on big-name authors. To give just a couple of examples, Henry James, after a brief stay with George Vanderbilt, referred to the colossal Biltmore House as "a gorgeous practical joke," while F. Scott Fitzgerald, holed up at the Grove Park Inn while recovering from tuberculosis, tried to wean himself from hard liquor by consuming as many as thirty-five beers a day.

No writer profiled in *Scribblers* receives as much attention as Kirk himself. He details his own struggles in writing the book, even describing the process of having an early draft of the manuscript rejected by a couple of literary agents. He is quick to relate his own foibles, both at writing and research, and though it seems as if he were trying to portray himself as a bumbling everyman, it's clear that he knows his stuff.

Scribblers is most successful as a group portrait of the writers of the North Carolina mountains, but this doesn't mean that it should be taken as just a dry reference book. Kirk's candid approach and his affable prose make for an extremely enjoyable read. The book is recommended for all libraries that collect North Carolina literature and for general collections in the western part of the state.

Nicholas Graham
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Judy Rozelle.

*Shuffletown, U.S.A.:
A Multi-Voice Memoir.*

Boone, NC: Parkway Publishers, 2004.
158 pp. \$19.95. ISBN 1-887905-85-5.

Shuffletown, USA: A Multi-Voice Memoir is the story of the rural village of Shuffletown, located outside of Charlotte. Shuffletown began as a ferry crossing along the Catawba River in 1840. Houses and shops were later built, centered on a nearby wagon crossroads. Farm families, black and white, moved to the area and went to work producing cotton and food crops and raising livestock. The city of Charlotte annexed Shuffletown in 1992 and its character was unalterably changed. It was transformed from a close-knit rural enclave to an area characterized by residential subdivisions, chain stores, and busy four-lane roads.

Rozelle decided to write an informal oral history of Shuffletown several years ago after residents and relatives who had known her since childhood cared for her when she was diagnosed with cancer. These collected reminiscences from extended family members and long-time friends deal with every aspect of life in the community, from caring for children to the rituals at funerals. Rozelle prefaces her book with a disclaimer. She changed the names of her informants and jumbled identifying characteristics. Readers acquainted with the area and its residents should still be able to sort the identities of the sources. For those readers who are unfamiliar with Shuffletown, the stories can be read as emblematic of rural life in much of North Carolina in the early and mid twentieth century.

The Shuffletown stories are organized into three sections: events, customs, and "daily comforts of life." Important events include Christmas

Remembering Bill Neal was written both to memorialize Neal and to share the food he prepared in different periods and settings of his life. In the book's foreword, John T. Edge outlines the history of Neal's career and quotes some of the chefs who have been influenced by him. Moreton Neal's preface provides a more personal overview. Even after their decade-long marriage ended, the Neals remained close friends. In addition to her career as a chef and restaurateur, Moreton has worked as a writer and interior designer. She selected the recipes and organized them into three sections: "La Résidence," "Crook's Corner," and "At Home." Each section is preceded by an introductory essay and a table of contents listing the recipes.

Moreton Neal's tone is warm and charming, offering insights into Bill's personality and life and the culinary ideas he championed. Although some of the recipes appeared in one or more of his three cookbooks, the majority have never been published. In contrast to most recipes created by restaurant chefs, those included in this book are very accessible to the home cook. I successfully prepared a number of them for my extremely appreciative family: the simple but delicious *Maque Choux* with Shrimp, Neal's classic recipe for Shrimp and Grits, traditional Buttermilk Biscuits, and the popular New Orleans dessert Bread Pudding with Whiskey Sauce. The directions are clear and appropriately detailed and call for no exotic ingredients or unfamiliar techniques.

These recipes were developed before Americans became so preoccupied with fat and carbohydrates and they do not include nutritional breakdowns. However, because so many of the recipes feature fresh vegetables, fish, and poultry, and as the cook may cut back on the amount of butter and bacon without compromising the taste, this is likely to be a useful addition to the twenty-first century kitchen. *Remembering Bill Neal* will appeal to anyone who enjoys cooking or reading about food, particularly those who wish to prepare dishes they have enjoyed at Crook's Corner or La Résidence. *Bill Neal's Southern Cooking* (UNC Press, 1985) and *Biscuits, Spoonbread, and Sweet Potato Pie* (Knopf, 1990) are more fundamental to a library's collection on Southern cooking as they include seminal recipes accompanied by extensive scholarly background. Larger public and academic libraries will certainly want to supplement those key titles with *Remembering Bill Neal* and, possibly, Neal's *Good Old Grits Cookbook* (Workman, 1991).

Elizabeth Bramm Dunn
Duke University

Lawrence E. Babits and Joshua B. Howard.

"Fortitude and Forbearance": The North Carolina Continental Line in the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783.

Raleigh: Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 2004.
325 pp. \$26.40. ISBN 0-86526-317-5.

officers who apparently served under Continental command without leaving further documentary evidence. A glossary of military terms, bibliography and an indispensable index round out the book.

"Fortitude and Forbearance" is a careful listing of war records of officers (including quartermasters and surgeons) who served in the Continental Army in North Carolina regiments. The book contains a description of the regiments and lists all officers by regiment with dates of service and their reasons for leaving the army. The authors also describe regimental engagements, listing the names of officers killed, wounded or captured, followed by a longer section of individual war record biographies. This book does not include those who served in the Navy or as privateers (with the exception of four naval officers who are given brief biographies). An appendix includes similar short biographies of North Carolina

Dr. Babits is a professor in the Maritime Studies Program at East Carolina University while Howard is a Ph.D. candidate in history at Ohio State University. The Historical Publications Section of the Office of Archives and History did its usual fine job. This book is recommended for all libraries whose patrons include genealogists and those interested in detailed source materials on the Revolutionary War.

Patrick Valentine
Wilson County Public Library

Christina Greene.

Our Separate Ways: Women and the Black Freedom Movement in Durham, North Carolina.

Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005.
384 pp. \$59.95 (cloth) ISBN 0-8078-2938-2;
\$19.95 (paper) ISBN 0-8078-5600-2.

stories of the individuals who were involved. Many of these networks, often led by low-income African American women, defied the barriers of race, class, and gender, bringing together female and male, black and white, as well as poor and rich. One of the most striking stories in the book is that of the relationship between Durham Klansman C.P. Ellis and black activist Ann Atwater. Years after the knife-wielding Atwater lunged toward Ellis in an attempt to silence his racial epithets, the two formed an unlikely team in an effort to ease tension during the desegregation of the Durham public schools.

In light of recent scholarship in the area of women and the American Civil Rights movement, researchers have become aware of the participation, organization, and leadership by women in the struggle for equal rights for African Americans. In *Our Separate Ways*, Christina Greene discusses women's grassroots organizational networks in Durham, N.C., in the period just after World War II through the early 1970s.

Greene succeeds in bringing the community organizations to life through

and corrections in order that the work he has started so well should continue.

Photographers in North Carolina: The First Century, 1842 to 1941 is an essential reference for North Carolina academic libraries and public libraries, and for any library that collects North Carolina history, art history, or the history of photography.

Joyce Weaver
The Mint Museums

Eleanor Lambert Wilson.

My Journey to Appalachia.

Fairview, N.C.: Bright Mountain Books, 2004. 182 pp. \$20.00. ISBN 0-914875-31-0.

The John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, N.C., was founded in 1925 by Olive Dame Campbell and Marguerite Butler, and was named for Campbell's late husband. The Folk School sought to offer noncompetitive instruction in a beautiful setting in which students and teachers would live, work, and learn together. When Eleanor (Ellie) Lambert, a recent Vassar graduate, arrived at the school in 1941, the country was emerging from the Great Depression, jobs were hard to find, and there were questions about whether, or when, the United States would enter the war in Europe.

Lambert, along with many of her contemporaries, looked for ways to do something definitive and useful in an uncertain environment.

It was a very different world for Ellie. Her primary job was packaging and shipping craft items made at the school, but she was also introduced to farming and learned about milking cows, collecting eggs, and even woodworking. She came to know Olive Campbell well, and made many good friends among the staff of the school and the community.

Lambert was in Brasstown when word came of the Japanese attack upon Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Through her account we have a snapshot of the reactions of this small mountain community to an historic event in our nation's history. Ellie discovered that these reactions varied, and that in some quarters prejudices surfaced against "all things oriental."

One of the most interesting episodes in Ellie's year-long personal journey occurred when she was invited by a Folk School friend to attend Little Brasstown Baptist Church, located in a one-room clapboard building. Lambert had never attended a Baptist church, and the Folk School staff generally refrained from discussing specific aspects of religion and politics. She found the emotion of the sermon "frightening," but she used the experience to grow in her own faith and understanding of believers who worshipped the same God very differently.

The subplot of Lambert's journal of this year is her developing relationship with a young man from the area, Monroe Wilson, who worked at the school. After the war, Monroe Wilson and Ellie Lambert married and settled in Brasstown, where they bought a dairy farm and where he later became postmaster. They raised four children there. Ellie worked as a social worker and a family counselor. The Wilsons were founding members of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Hayesville in 1955.

My Journey to Appalachia is the story of only one year, depicting a very young and idealistic woman who never expected to extend her stay beyond that year. It is a compliment to the author that the reader wishes for a second volume in order to hear from the mature Ellie Lambert Wilson of her marriage, and of the years of raising their family, years that left her deeply rooted in her adopted community. *My Journey to Appalachia* is Mrs. Wilson's first book, but the reviewer hopes it will not be her last.

This soft-cover volume is exceptionally well-produced. Sixty-seven photographs are interspersed throughout the narrative, including ten taken in the 1930s by the noted New York photographer Doris Ulmann, who traveled and worked for several years in Appalachia.

My Journey to Appalachia is recommended for academic and public libraries in the western region of the state as well as those elsewhere with an interest in North Caroliniana, Appalachian studies, and the decorative or folk arts.

Bryna Coonin
East Carolina University

Moreton Neal, ed.

Remembering Bill Neal: Favorite Recipes from a Life of Cooking.

Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004. 233pp. Includes index. \$22.95. ISBN 0-8078-2913-7.

Bill Neal was to Southern American cooking as Alice Waters has been to California cuisine: an advocate for using the very freshest, locally-produced foods in simple but delicious presentations that celebrate the region's distinctive culinary heritage. During his abbreviated but prolific lifetime, Neal (1950-1991) wrote three cookbooks and co-founded two influential and popular restaurants in Chapel Hill: La Résidence, with then-wife Moreton, and Crook's Corner, with Gene Hamer. Neal's cooking and writing -- celebrated by influential food writers such as Craig

Claiborne of the *New York Times* -- earned him a national reputation.

Wes and Rick Ferrell were major league stars, and teamed to form a potent battery for the Boston Red Sox and the Washington Senators from 1934-1938. Wes's playing career was shortened by arm problems, but during his prime he was a reliable twenty-plus game winner. These were the days before the designated hitter, and pitchers were expected to be complete players. Wes often appeared as a pinch hitter and consistently batted around .300. Hestill holds the major league record for career home runs by a pitcher, with 37. Thompson argues that Wes should be in the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and offers statistical comparisons with Lefty Grove, Dizzy Dean, and other star pitchers of the era to support his position.

Rick was a smart, accomplished catcher who handled his pitchers adroitly, swung a steady bat, and had an incredible arm for throwing out runners attempting to steal. He was instrumental in bringing the knuckleball to prominence. Most catchers were reluctant to call for the pitch because its erratic motion makes it difficult to catch. Rick, realizing that the pitch is an effective tool for retiring batters, never flinched when catching knuckleballers, and helped develop a number of young pitchers. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1984.

Thompson gleaned much of his information from magazine and newspaper articles, and quotes from them liberally throughout the book. His sources are well documented with chapter notes and a bibliography. He also had access to Ferrell family materials, and interviewed family members and baseball people. This is essentially a statistical history; Thompson focuses on hitting and pitching statistics, and in the case of pitcher Wes Ferrell, offers a game-by-game account of his appearances. What is sorely lacking is a real connection with the men on a personal level. The reader senses that the story of Wes and Rick Ferrell is perfect for a movie of the week, but we catch only faint glimpses of their lives beyond their batting averages. We are told that Wes was a perfectionist and had a temper when his performance wasn't up to par, but the few instances mentioned are quite mild, particularly when compared to the excesses of today's professional athletes. Rick is portrayed as smart and steady – was there no tumult in his life? We know little of their spouses and children or their interests beyond baseball. Thompson has penned a much drier account of the fabulous Ferrells than one would wish. The many photographs help fill the void, and are a highlight of the volume. The book also includes year-by-year statistics for each of the eight baseball-playing Ferrells.

The Ferrell Brothers of Baseball is suitable for general readers and will attract baseball fans and those interested in North Carolina history.

Suzanne Wise
Appalachian State University

Stephen E. Massengill.

**Photographers in North Carolina:
The First Century, 1842-1941.**

Raleigh: Office of Archives and History,
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources,
2004. 264 pp. \$34.96. ISBN 0-86526-311-6.

When it was published over twenty years ago, *North Carolina Illustrated 1526-1984* provided the first comprehensive pictorial history of the state. That seminal collection of images finally has a companion, a biographical directory that gives a name to the photographers who documented the people and places of North Carolina during the first century of their art. These pages include descriptions of many of the pioneers of image-making, including Rufus Morgan, who became the foremost stereographic artist of his time in the state (and whose waggish self-portrait is one of the many images reproduced in the text); Hugh Morton, who sold his first photograph in 1941 and went on to become one of the most influential photographers in North Carolina; Horace Davis, likely the first African American photographer to work in the state and who by 1880 was operating a gallery in Raleigh; and Bayard Wootten, whose work achieved national recognition and who was one of the first women in the country to undertake aerial photography. Massengill, employed at the State Archives and author of previous works on North Carolina history and photography including *Western North Carolina: A Visual Journey through Stereo Views and Photographs* (1999), has given us a treasure.

This biographical directory identifies over 2500 photographers who worked in North Carolina, a noteworthy achievement that is the result of Massengill's thirty-year passion with visual records and images. Introductory essays by Dr. H.G. Jones and Jesse R. Lankford, Jr. provide illuminating background. Dr. Jones, compiler of *North Carolina Illustrated, 1524-1984*, writes on the importance of documenting the images and those who made them, while Lankford discusses the development of the photographic process itself. Massengill precedes the directory with his essay "Photographers in North Carolina, 1842-1941," providing context for just some of the photographic pioneers listed.

An extensive index allows searching by artist name, studio name, city, image locale and/or subject, and photographic technique. Arranged alphabetically by artist and studio or company name, each entry provides an abbreviated biographical sketch. Appendices include listings of stereograph producers, picture postcard producers, female photographers and African American photographers in the state. Additional helpful listings within Massengill's essay include prominent photographers during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Massengill provides an exhaustive listing of source material – including business directories, newspapers, and official records – and acknowledges the valuable contributions to the directory of photographic archivists in the state such as Sheila Bumgarner at the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, Jennifer Bean Bower at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts and Jerry Cotten of the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Massengill also encourages readers to submit additions

determinations of “feeble-mindedness” often meant little more than “poor” or “black” or both.

In her discussion of abortion, Schoen highlights the negotiations of women who are increasingly forced to jump through hoops in order to obtain a “therapeutic” abortion. She notes that the arguments over abortion in this period have often focused on the language used to describe it, whether the abortion be “therapeutic,” “eugenic,” or “elective.” These definitions have shifted, as has the public’s understanding of what is morally permissible, which in turn affects the birth control services to which women are able to gain access.

Finally, Schoen documents the efforts of countries such as Puerto Rico and India and their struggles with providing family planning and birth control services. As with the other sections, Schoen provides a clear-eyed analysis of the forces advocating reproductive control and the frameworks constructed to support these services.

Johanna Schoen is an Assistant Professor of History and Women’s Studies at the University of Iowa. This is her first book, and she is currently working on another study of women and reproductive rights entitled *Birds and Bees: Women and the History of Reproductive Health, 1970-2000*. Her research was used by the *Winston-Salem Journal* in December 2002 for a week-long series of articles on eugenic sterilization that led to reparations and an official apology from the Governor Mike Easley.

The book is primarily of value to academic libraries, but is of sufficient interest and quality that public library patrons may value it as well. For those interested in this topic, this book provides an invaluable window on the reproductive choices of women and the government policies that have sought to control them.

Scott Rice
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

E. B. Alston.

The Emerald Necklace and Other Stories.

Timberlake, NC: Righter Publishing, 2003.
206 pp. ISBN 0-9747735-5-7.

E. B. Alston of Timberlake, N.C., began to write *The Emerald Necklace and Other Stories* after he retired from work as a telephone company executive. “These stories are quite unusual and they will make you think. I hope so anyway and I hope you like them. I enjoyed writing them,” he writes in the introduction. Seventeen short stories are collected here, representing a variety of genres including science fiction, crime, ghost, epistolary, and western. The 2005 *Writer’s Digest Self-*

Published Book Awards called the collection “wildly eclectic,” noting the updated version of Little Red Riding Hood, in which the wolf drives a red Thunderbird and is a polluter, junk food eater, and beer drinker.

The title story, in which a jewelry salesman keeps a woman’s secret, is one of the better efforts. The story called “Ghost Story” might be the best. In it, a young farm boy comes up with a novel and hilarious way to get rid of an insurance salesman. Alston says he originally came up with the idea for this story in 1951. “The Chase” has the tension of a television crime drama, as a husband rescues his kidnapped wife and daughter.

“The Tar River Moon God” was included in the literary journal of Piedmont Community College, *Reflections*, in 2003. “Rainbow’s End” begins with a line the author always wanted to start a story with: “She looked at me with her good eye.” A prostitute with a glass eye that falls out finally consents to go out with a man named Wesley Pecksniff because he “caught her eye.”

The Emerald Necklace is Alston’s second self-published book. While the author’s enthusiasm for storytelling and sense of humor are evident, the stories are often unpolished and might better be described as anecdotes, drafts, or sketches. Additional copy editing would improve the printed presentation. Libraries will not want to purchase this book.

Nancy P. Shires
East Carolina University

Dick Thompson.

The Ferrell Brothers of Baseball.

Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2005. 306 pp.
\$29.95. ISBN 0-7864-20006-5.

There have been a number of famous brother combinations in professional baseball, such as Paul and Dizzy Dean; Ken, Cleve, and Cloyd Boyer; and Felipe, Jesus, and Matty Alou, to name but a few. But North Carolina has the distinction of being the home of the first family of baseball. Eight members of the Ferrell family of Guilford County played professional baseball, and one is in the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

In *The Ferrell Brothers of Baseball*, Dick Thompson, an award-winning member of SABR (Society for American Baseball Research), chronicles the careers of three Ferrell brothers. He focuses on pitcher Wes and catcher Rick, who played, coached, and managed from the mid 1920s to the late 1940s, and briefly covers the career of George, a longtime minor league player and manager. Also included are short sketches of the baseball exploits of five other Ferrell brothers, sons, and cousins.

throughout his life refused to accept African Americans as people of reason and ability.

McKinney, Gordon B.

***Zeb Vance: North Carolina's Civil War Governor
and Gilded Age Political Leader.***

Chapel Hill : University of North Carolina Press, 2004.
477pp. \$45.00 ISBN 0-8078-2865-3.

Zebulon Vance was born into a family of some means and progressed along the normal path for a white man of his time. After graduating from the University of North Carolina, Vance joined a law practice and served in the Confederate Army before moving into politics. As Governor, and in the U.S. House and Senate, Vance dedicated his life to the cause of North Carolina through the Civil War, Reconstruction, and late nineteenth-century political strife, but he always fought for a North Carolina that would be dominated

by white elites. McKinney stresses, more than earlier biographers of Vance, how racism affected both Vance's and North Carolina's politics for decades after the war. In efforts to "redeem" North Carolina from Republican rule, Vance used his persuasive power of speech to "scare" white North Carolinians to his party's line.

McKinney stresses that North Carolina and Vance were not secessionists. Both stood firm with the Union until given no real choice. When the state finally seceded, Vance threw himself into protecting the interests of North Carolina and her people in the war effort. The scope of this book is not limited to Vance and his life; it is also an excellent, in-depth treatment of the politics of the Civil War in North Carolina. For those unfamiliar with North Carolina politics in the years before and during the war, this book is a great primer. While it works as an introduction to the period, many of the references might not be familiar to general readers, and I wish that McKinney had used the notes section to expand on these.

McKinney provides in-depth treatments of many of Vance's contemporaries. He discusses the opposition that Vance received from people like William W. Holden, newspaper editor in Raleigh, and Thomas L. Clingman, politician from western North Carolina. We also learn about Vance's supporters, including Edward J. Hale, editor of the *Fayetteville Observer*, David L. Swain, mentor to Vance from his university days, and Cornelia Phillips Spencer, with whom he had a long history of correspondence.

Gordon B. McKinney has made a career of researching and writing on Vance and Western North Carolina at the time of the Civil War. Having prepared *A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of the Papers of Zebulon Vance*, he is an authority on his subject. This work is aimed at scholars, citing copious primary and secondary resources, and yet it is written in a manner that will appeal to most readers. McKinney provides a large notes section for those wishing to delve further into the history of North Carolina in the late 1800s. This book also includes an index and some illustrations of Vance and his contemporaries. It would fit well in an academic or public library and is highly recommended for a complex, yet fresh look at a very important North Carolinian.

Caroline Keizer
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Johanna Schoen.

***Choice & Coercion: Birth Control, Sterilization,
and Abortion in Public Health and Welfare.***

Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005.
331 pp. ISBN 0-8070-5585-5.

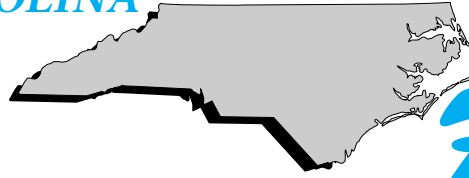
Some topics by their very nature lend themselves to polemics, and books written about those topics tend to proselytize rather than explain. In contrast, Johanna Schoen's book, *Choice & Coercion: Birth Control, Sterilization, and Abortion in Public Health and Welfare*, brings a neutral tone to the often inflammatory topic of women's reproductive rights. Her excellent work does not seem to take sides, favoring a thorough explanation of the complexities behind the motivations, issues, and history surrounding the controversial topics of birth control, sterilization, and abortion.

This book discusses women's reproductive issues beginning in the 1920s through the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973. Separate sections cover public birth control services, sterilization, abortion, and international birth control efforts. In each section, Schoen addresses the tension between individual women and the state.

The section on public birth control services documents the tensions between government officials and institutions and the women they serve. Schoen describes various individuals and groups who sought to provide reproductive services to women, noting that it was primarily poor women who were served by public agencies. She discusses their various beliefs concerning the efficacy of providing these services on the one hand and the state's motivations for doing so on the other. As in every section, Schoen brings the abstract down to the level of the personal when she includes the stories of actual women who were affected by these policies, as well as those of the officials who shaped and enacted the laws.

The sterilization section looks at state eugenics programs. North Carolina alone conducted over 8,000 sterilizations in this period. Again, Schoen contrasts those who argued for the sterilization of women (and some few men) on the grounds of eugenics with the potential subjects, some who fought, and some who sought out sterilization. She also notes the intersection of class and race in this section, as eugenic

NORTH CAROLINA



Books

Nicholas Graham, Compiler

Bill Wiktorek.

2nd Last Chance.

Cornelius, N.C.: Warren Publishing, 2004.
243pp. \$14.95. ISBN 1-886027-55-9.

7his suspense novel tells the story of a clandestine organization whose purpose is to help the down-and-out in Charlotte. The group's leader has died unexpectedly; a newspaper reporter is trying to uncover the organization's secrets; and a local crime boss is attempting a takeover. Slick Miller, a commercial loan officer, is called in to save the group that has helped him in the past. Slick quickly determines that the organization does much more than provide housing and jobs for those who need a fresh start. I do not want to give away any more since this is a suspense story, but suffice it to say that the plot involves subterfuge, twists and turns, and a large cast of characters.

The book claims to be a story of redemption, but is actually a tale of trust. The characters must trust each other; a financial trust is fundamental to the plot; and ultimately, the reader must trust that the final pages will bring much-needed clarification. They do, but it's a long and bumpy ride. There are often times when Slick is not the only one who does not know what is going on.

This story is entertaining, but stilted dialogue, confusion created by using real and code names for the characters, and weak character development hamper rather than support the plot. Ultimately, I did not find the plot very plausible. The book contains minor typographical errors and misspellings, which I found distracting.

This is the author's first novel. He is an ex-Marine who lives in Charlotte. This book may be suitable for public libraries.

Lynne Bisko
Elon University

Alan D. Watson, with Eva C. (Bea) Latham and Patricia M. Samford.

Bath: The First Town in North Carolina.

Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources,
Office of Archives and History, 2005.
153 pp. \$24.26. ISBN 0-86526-318-3.

Bath: The First Town in North Carolina provides an in-depth glimpse of life in eighteenth-century North Carolina. Bath is the state's oldest town, founded in 1705, and originally served as a port for shipping goods such as hogs, cattle, tobacco, and wood products to markets in New England and overseas. Although eventually replaced in prominence by towns like New Bern and Edenton, Bath never lost its distinctive atmosphere and colorful heritage.

Bath is noted not just for its age, but for some of its well-known visitors. The pirate Blackbeard made his home base here when he was at the height of his glory. Much later, writer Edna Ferber came to Bath, and used the town as inspiration for her novel *Show Boat*.

Author Alan D. Watson traces many of the political and cultural developments in Bath, giving special attention to the role of women in colonial society. Numerous maps, facsimiles, and portraits of key individuals complement the text, while tables illustrate the significance of Bath as a shipping center. An extensive bibliography of both primary and secondary sources is provided for easy reference. Watson is on the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and has published a number of books and articles on North Carolina history.

This book is well-suited for placement in an academic or special library and is essential for any collection that specializes in North Carolina's colonial past.

David W. Young
University of North Carolina at Pembroke

In *Zeb Vance: North Carolina's Civil War Governor and Gilded Age Political Leader*, Gordon B. McKinney delves into the life of a man honored with monuments in Asheville, Raleigh, and Washington, D.C., and who has a county and a town named for him, but who