

# Hamilton Rosenwald School Oral/Written History Project

R O A N O K E R I V E R P A R T N E R S , I N C .

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

You can obtain a copy of our book, the [Hamilton Rosenwald School Preservation Story: Preserving the memories, the faces and the place](#), which contains an overview of our project and our findings by contacting Carol Shields (contact information below). A limited supply of a new edition of this book is currently available at the cost of **\$35**. Their purchase helps promote and support this project.

For more information about this project as well as some information about Rosenwald Schools in general, you can go to: [www.roanokeriverpartners.org/Rosenwald.htm](http://www.roanokeriverpartners.org/Rosenwald.htm)

In you have any questions or any information about this project that you would like to share, please contact **Carol Shields**, project researcher, at **3924 Shields Commissary Road, Scotland Neck, NC 27874** or **252-826-5719**.

## THE RETURN OF AN HISTORIC ROSENWALD & ITS LEGACY

Since acquiring the Hamilton Rosenwald School in 2007, RRP has been working with the local community to preserve this historic building as well as its legacy.

To date, about 100 former students have been identified. Some have been interviewed in an effort to capture their memories of this historic school.

On September 11, 2010, a reunion was held at the Hamilton Fire Station to bring folks interested in the project together. Over 100 people from nine counties attended. Those in attendance included former students from regional Rosenwald Schools as well as a host of local and regional folks in-

terested in this exciting preservation project.

Among the historical artifacts collected so far are: a desk



**Hamilton Rosenwald School, formerly known as the "Hamilton Colored School," as it appears today.**

bell used by Edna Andrews~ a beloved teacher at the old school; a collector's set of McGuffey Readers and a book from the Dick and Jane series;

a doll in period dress; a recipe for school soup; a segment of 16 mm film from 1939; and some old school photographs. Additionally, some books which contain information about the Hamilton School and others about Julius Rosenwald have been gathered.

It is our vision that upon completion, this historical site will be re-purposed as: a river/community center; an interpretive site to tell the Rosenwald story; and an economic engine to cultivate eco-tourism and cultural heritage initiatives throughout the Roanoke River Region. Soon it will once again serve as a vital hub in the community where it has survived for almost a century!

## HOW YOU CAN HELP?

We continue to search for any items that might be relevant to this project. Items of interest include: old photographs; old books; newspaper clippings; items that may have been used in this school or other similar schools; any relevant stories or information; names

and contact information of former students and teachers; and items that are representative of this era (1914 -1960). We have a particular interest in finding the old school yard bell or one that is similar.

If you have a sincere interest

in being involved in this project in anyway or if you would like to make a donation to this project, please contact Carol Shields, project researcher, at 252-826-5719.

We would love to hear from you and to have your support!