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Welcome to this weeks  
edition of The Waxhaw  
Gazette! If you own a  
business and have any  
news worthy  
happenings planned or  
know of someone new  
coming in, send me a  
press release and I will  
be happy to include it.  
Contact me directly  
with comments or  
suggestions at: [jtiley@  
thewaxhawgazette.com](mailto:jtiley@thewaxhawgazette.com)

~ ~ ~



The most impressive vocalist group of the evening was Valor III. of Statesville, NC.

# Fireworks, Resolutions & Parties, the New Year has Arrived!

by John Tiley

Well, 2009 came in with a great loud BOOM here .... Fireworks abounded welcoming in the New Year, making sure nobody missed it and with a greeting we all are happy to have at long last! Just about everybody I have talked to recently is grateful to have 2008 finally come to a close, hopefully ending the demise of our economy! Or at least, with a glimmer of hope for the upcoming year! It even seemed that people were out celebrating more than in the past.... I understand that the Charlotte event was extremely well attended. Everywhere I heard about parties and such. Even I got into the spirit and went out for the evening attending an event I was invited to and not at all what one who knows me would think I would go to. It was the Gospel Music Event put on by the Union County Sheriffs Department down at the University of Wingate. There were at least a half a dozen groups that performed throughout the evening and it was an outstanding performance at that! Although most of the performances were singers working with pre-recorded sound tracks, all did an excellent job that brought in the New Year on a positive note!

Following is some information on a few of the groups that performed. Although all did an admirable job, I had two favorites which included The Accidental Trio and Valor III. If ever you have the opportunity, by all means enjoy a performance by these very talented people!

My number one favorite of the evening was "The Vocalese Group that did one of the best sets of the entire evening. Their group is composed of the following four members: Earline Hicks, Project Coordinator for The Crime Prevention Committee and responsible for a wonderful evening's entertainment on New Years Eve; Heidi Dove; Dohn Bowers on the Keyboard; and Ken Fuqua. Earline, Heidi, and Ken all attend church and sing together at Seigle Presbyterian Church in Charlotte on McDowell and Tenth. The arrangements they performed Wednesday night were: "Take Me Back," an Andre Crouch piece; "Promise, by the Martins; "When I lift Up My Head," by Dottie Rambo; and the showstopper "Operator," by Manhattan Transfer. Sadly, this group only does this show yearly along with church participation. I propose we start a movement to get them more engagements!

The Cockman Family Bluegrass Gospel Group is made up of four brothers, their sister and their Dad. The Cockmans have a unique bluegrass gospel style. Their harmonies, original songs and original arrangements of the old gospel songs have been immensely popular with their audiences. Fans love their family-style entertainment as well. As the family continues to grow, they are writing more of their own music and coming into a style all of their own. They love to sing and they love the Lord. Their family ties are strong, and the warmth of that is conveyed in their performances.  
<http://www.cockmanfamily.com>



With a ministry and musical heritage that spans over 45 years, it wasn't until 1991 that the Wishons came on the scene like you see them now. In the years since, they've continued to garner much attention with their unique blend of family harmony. The Wishons have enjoyed a wide variety of ministry opportunities and in each setting one thing is certain, the name of Jesus will be exalted, the Gospel will be presented, and His saints will have a good time in the Lord! Each member of this Southern Gospel singing family is sincere in their love for the Lord, sincere in their love for the music they sing, and sincere in their need to spread the Word to others through their music.  
<http://www.thewishons.com>



The  
Christmas Parade  
Slide Show, still posted

## Around Town:

~ ~ ~ ~

*Just in case you  
haven't had  
time to read  
about  
Christmas  
Safety...*



As the Season is upon us we are all busy with preparing our homes for the Holidays with lights, trees and decorations of all types.

While we are preoccupied with this time of year it is very important to take a few minutes to review safety tips to insure we have a incident free time. The Waxhaw Volunteer Fire Department offers tips to make sure your holiday is a safe one!

*See the Living Well Page  
for more information >*

~ ~ ~

The  
Christmas Parade  
Slide Show, still posted

Consisting of Ronald and Mark Moore (THE MOORE BROTHERS) and Rev. Jeff Rowland. After 20 years of pastoring our home church, Jeff became the third member of the trio. This combination of voices gave birth to the unique sound that is known as Valor III. I will say that although they sung to pre-recorded music, they by far out performed the music and without a doubt can support and exceed themselves when they have the opportunity to work with a live orchestra where they can be even more creative with their renditions!

<http://valoriii.com>

*now on page 2!*

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Serving the people of Waxhaw, North Carolina

Fifty ~ Eighth Edition

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**Ushering out the Old & in with the New.**

**2008 in Retrospect.**

by John Tiley

**2008** brought about an awakening for most of us. When the year started most of us were still of the opinion that things could get better, that the woes that came in with the New Year would be overcome. Now that the year is over, sadly we are left with a lot of truths that have come to light, that in the year or so prior, we were living in a false economy that couldn't possibly be sustained. Iraq is still an ongoing war even thousands of our people and hundreds of thousands of Iraqis have died there not to mention the trillions of dollars that we've spent there? And is there really and end to it, or are we just going to finally get tired enough of pouring lives and money down that drain and just get out?

Next in line was Wall Street, as always showing profits no matter how moral, let alone legal for those stock holders. Gas futures and bad mortgages were the order for the year, Buy and sell to anybody they could convince, after all, the "Banks" were writing the mortgages and the "government" would back them! Four Dollar plus a gallon gas, I guess that would put a pretty big dent in anybody's vehicle sales on trucks and SUV's that get pretty horrible mileage! But those futures on gas sure sold at a great profit!

Freddie Mac, Lehman and the Banks, so many of them, all folding under the weight of all of those immoral business practices. But that was OK too, after all the Government was willing to bail out most everybody (on Wall Street that is)! And of course nobody has to account for those BILLIONS given to them? So as we enter 2009 we will have what 2, maybe 3 gigantic banks running things, and just to make sure they remain "profitable" hundreds of thousands of bank employees are going to end up out of work when all is said and done? Perhaps a few of the good ones will take it upon themselves to open small local banks all around the country dedicated to serving their CUSTOMERS, not Wall Street. You can be assured I will be one of the first lined up to do business with them!

**Visions of 2009**

To begin with we have a new and very different President taking office shortly and he will certainly be going through a baptism by fire! I expect that in short order Chrysler and GM will end up closing despite the bailout in place leaving only Ford as a viable American auto maker. You are asking far too much of Chrysler and GM too late with far too little to work with, and sadly this has mostly to do with the leadership and a lack of vision.

Steel will continue to limp along until things pick up; after all they already went through their major overhaul to compete in today's world. There will be even more layoffs than they already have had to endure recently, but they should remain intact. It is health care that will be the next major domino to tumble before this is all over. An industry already in acknowledgment of needing an overhaul will be inundated with the millions upon millions of newly uninsured and unemployed. And the Government, well they can print only so much money before it becomes entirely worthless!

The good news? Once we have endured these upheavals and "adjustments" the US will be a far better place for it. We somehow lost our way, got too far from the roots our forefathers sewed. We certainly will not be involved in foreign wars like we have been forced to endure recently as we simply won't be able to afford them any more. Illegal immigration will become less of an issue as we will be filling any available jobs with Americans that want to work instead of starve. Most drugs that are considered illegal currently should be legalized, taxed and monitored by the government. After all we have never been successful from keeping the end user from getting them. That will make us a whole lot of money and we can stop dumping money into an obviously failed effort on "the War on Drugs"!

Yes, those of us who do survived, and have endured, our sights will be set on far more realistic goals, our lives will be better centered on what we truly need and terms like morality and loyalty will have a renewed meaning for us. So 2009 does hold promise. The promise of pain, change and most importantly, a renewed spirit.



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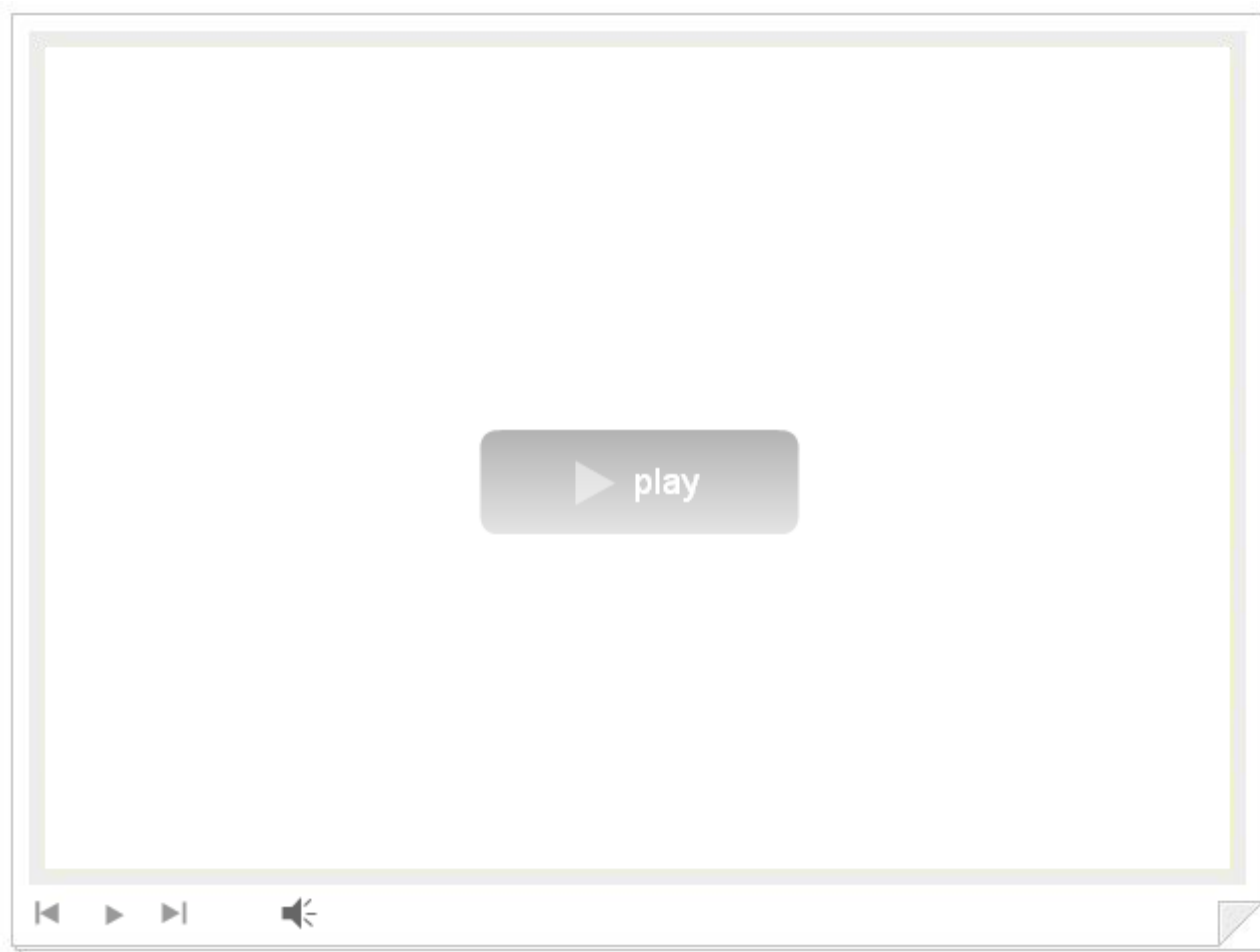


**Prices for gas in the Waxhaw area...**

*Editors Note: Usually I personally check the prices posted for the above companies. However, occasionally when time is short I call the stations on the phone to check for current prices. If no pricing is offered the above reflects the last visually confirmed pricing.*

	3/20/08	12/25/08
Texaco:	\$3.19.9	\$1.55.9
Pure:	\$3.24.9	\$1.56.9
Little General:	\$3.24.9	\$156.9
Shell:	\$3.24.9	\$1.55.9
Wax. In n Out:	\$3.26.9	\$1.56.9
Mineral Springs:		
M. S. Grocery	\$3.20.9	\$1.59.9
Texaco:	\$3.21.9	\$1.55.9
BP on New Town	\$3.21.9	\$1.54.9

*This may take a few moments to download, so please be patient, it is worth the wait.*



*I personally want to thank Lorayn Deluca from Image Security and Chuck DeMund of the Rotary for supplying me with a great selection of photos of which I was able to produce this slide show. So without further ado, sit back, turn up the volume on your speakers and enjoy a show full of memorable moments.....*

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# Waxhaw's Events Calendar

## Donate To Steve's Coats For Kids



### Dear Waxhaw Volunteer Fire Department and community friends!

Now that we have been clearly been blessed with wonderful gifts, good health and terrific friendships I am asking for the season of giving to go a bit longer and into the New Year!

Steve Udelson with Channel 9 organizes every year a coat drive for needy kids called "Steve's Coats For Kids." These coats are distributed to the children in the Charlotte community. This year the Charlotte Fire Department is getting involved by being a designated coat drop off point.

Glyn and I began tonight collecting coats and have already collected 6 coats from our own closet! I am e-mailing in hopes that you join us in taking time to clean out your closet and give to those less fortunate. If you have any coat that you would like to donate, please bring them to the Waxhaw Fire Station and place them in the box marked "Steve's Coats For Kids" and Glyn or I will pick them up and take them to Station 39.

Coat collections end on January 17. All coats will be distributed by **Crisis Assistance Ministry**.

Please drop me a note with any questions that you may have!

Again, thank you for extending the season of giving and give the gift of warmth in the New Year!

Glyn and Caroline Hasty

For more information please click here:  
<http://www.wsocvtv.com/family/18237161/detail.html>

surfns swim@alltel.net  
chief@waxhawvfd.org  
ghasty@ci.charlotte.nc.us

Channel 9 Eyewitness News **Chief Meteorologist Steve Udelson** is asking viewers to donate new or gently used coats for needy children in the Charlotte area. All sizes of coats are needed, particularly adult-sized coats for larger children. There is also a need for heavy coats with zipout linings that can be worn even when it is not so cold. All coats will be distributed by **Crisis Assistance Ministry**.

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*"Always do right -  
This will gratify  
some people and  
astonish the rest."  
--Mark Twain*

## And now, Our Weekly Dose of Humor directly from the Internet.....

bits and pieces that your Editor will not testify to for correctness, accuracy nor even believability but they are certainly humorous? So Enjoy!

### *Breaking NASCAR news!*

## Jeff Gordon fires his entire pit crew

a set of wheels in less than 6 seconds without proper equipment, whereas Gordon's existing crew could only do it in 8 seconds with millions of dollars worth of high tech equipment.



It was thought to be an excellent and bold move by Gordon's management team as most races are won or lost in the pits. However-Gordon got more than he bargained for!

At the crew's first practice session, not only was the inexperienced crew able to change all 4 wheels in under 6 seconds, but within 12 seconds they had changed the paint scheme, altered the Vin number, and sold the car to Dale Jr. for 10 cases of Bud.



This announcement followed Gordon's decision to take advantage of the government's scheme to employ Harlem youngsters.

The decision to hire them was brought about by a recent documentary on how unemployed youths from Harlem were able to remove



**Excellent  
footage from inside  
the space station...  
enjoy the view!**



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for the day!!!**



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