

James W. Clark, Jr

Dr. James. W. "Jim" Clark, Jr. has made--and continues to make--a lasting and important impact on the lives and stories of people and organizations all over North Carolina. Jim's career in academia illustrated the epitome of service to others through his scholarship. Since his retirement in 2005, he has continued to build upon his service accomplishments, further demonstrating a sustained commitment to the literary profession, to humanities extension, to North Carolina State University and, of course, to the people of North Carolina, both young and old.



Widely known for his scholarship in folklore and literature, and his dedication to providing the best in educational opportunity for North Carolina children and adults, Dr. Clark's retirement has marked even more benefit to the people of North Carolina. His continued service to 4-H, his well known and highly subscribed courses and study tours on creative writing, and his enabling encouragement for writing personal and family histories, among other things make his name well known. Dr. Clark provides these opportunities on a volunteer basis through the Encore lifelong learning program at NC State, as well as in schools, community centers and retirement communities.

From his childhood in rural Warren County up to the present time, Jim Clark has been a champion of North Carolina's 4-H program. In 1984 he published a history of the 4-H entitled, *Clover All Over: North Carolina 4-H in Action*. In 2011 he brought out an expanded edition of his splendid 1984 history of 4-H.

The new 348 page edition is entitled *Clover All Over: North Carolina's First 4-H Century*. This and his many other achievements in service resulted in Jim's being recognized with the 2011 North Carolina 4-H Lifetime Achievement Award. Jim leads by serving on many boards and in many communities and organizations, including: The Paul Green Foundation (President); Friends of the Gregg Museum of Art and Design (President); Selection Committee, North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame (Chair); North Carolina 4-H History and Learning Center Steering Committee (Chair); North Carolina Freedom Monument Project (Co-chair); Habitat for Humanity of Wake County (Secretary of the Executive Committee and Board); Executive Committee, North Carolinian Society; Thomas Wolfe Student Essay Prize Committee (Chair); and, the Chautauqua National Book Prize Committee (Judge). Jim is a talented and much sought after volunteer instructor in the Encore Program, teaching 2-3 courses per year on a variety of topics including folklore, creative writing, literature, and philosophy. He also frequently conducts study trips for the Encore Program, and he teaches Life Writing Workshops at senior centers, churches, and other organizations. These workshops have produced twelve books and booklets by participants, each of them edited by Jim.

For his lasting accomplishments, his enthusiasm for learning, and his generous spirit, Jim Clark is the recipient of the William C. Friday Award for Distinguished Service in Retirement.

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