



The Lost Colony, 1409 National Park Drive, Manteo, NC 27954 www.thelostcolony.org

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Media Contact:

John Buford (252) 473-2127 x 225
john@thelostcolony.org

The Lights Are on and Nobody's Home... Yet!

--The Lost Colony Costume Shop Construction Nears Completion --

(Manteo, N.C., March 24, 2008) – It has only been 7 months since a tragic fire consumed *The Lost Colony's* Irene Smart Rains costume shop, two outlying buildings and their contents—but quick acting by the Roanoke Island Historical Association in cooperation with the National Park Service has nearly rebuilt the costume shop building. Recently, Lyle Laverty, Assistant Secretary of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (Left photo, standing on the right) visited the construction site to monitor the progress. Updating Laverty on the project were (L-R) Ken Keating, *The Lost Colony's* Development Director; Chris Seawell, Chairman of the Roanoke Island Historical Association Board, and Mike Murray Superintendent for the National Park Service (NPS) Outer Banks Group. (Photo Right) Stacy Sarmiento, costume construction coordinator displays William Ivey Long's costume designs for the group. Laverty shared with *The Lost Colony* that U.S. Senator Richard Burr was intent that the building construction not delay opening night preparations for the long-running drama. Senator Burr is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Parks. This committee is responsible for our nation's park system, which includes national monuments, historic sites, military battlefields, historic preservation, national trails, and national recreation areas. In a few days, staff and crew will move into the new shop. Five apartments in TLC's summer housing complex have been filled with costumes, supplies, and equipment ready for their new home. The ribbon-cutting open house for the Irene Smart Rains Costume Shop is slated for April 30. The community seems equally excited about Opening Night's unveiling of the new costumes as indicated by an advance in ticket sales for the evening. Patrons are encouraged to reserve seats well in advance of May 30th's premier performance by calling 252-473-2127.



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