

## Centennial Celebration

► Ron Wanek's truck caravan through downtown.

Doug Brackett  
Retired executive  
vice president  
American Furniture  
Manufacturers Assn.  
(now known as AHFA)

## A 'red letter' day

My best memory of the High Point Market happened on July 9, 1956, during my very first market in the Globe

Parlor Furniture Showroom on the fourth floor of the Southern Furniture Exposition Building now known as the IHFC. This was a red-letter day for me as I met my wife to be Wanna Mcanally, who was working with her friend Ellen Foscue, the daughter of my boss, Henry A. Foscue, president of Globe and the SFEB.

Wanna and Ellen were friends attending Duke University and had landed a job

with SFEB for the July market as telephone girls. They answered the only telephone on the fourth floor and relayed information to the showrooms. They also delivered attendance reports to all the showrooms listing the dealers that had registered for market.

After graduation from NCSU and 2 years of military service, I was lucky to get an interview with Mr. Foscue at Globe for a sales training opportunity

and I got the job. So I started to work at Globe on Feb. 15, 1956; met Wanna Mcanally on July 9, 1956; and married Wanna on Feb. 15, 1958. Thanks be to the High Point Market, as I would not have moved to High Point where I was given my first job in the furniture industry and met my wonderful bride.

Bill Blanton  
Consultant  
Blanco Consultants

## Directions, please?

The event that I remember most from High Point occurred in 1991, and always makes me laugh. After showing in a 10 by 20-foot space for two or three markets, and begging the IHFC to give me space in the main building as a permanent exhibitor, I was finally given a 1,200-square-foot permanent showroom on the third floor of the Green wing. The space was next to the bathroom, and tucked away in a corner, where no one walked by.

After setting up on the first day, I left the space to go make a few photocopies. On my way back, it took me 20 minutes to find my own space, and I was asking every buyer I could find where AICO was. People kept telling me that I needed to look at the directory. Finally, after finding my space, every time I wanted to leave the showroom, I thought twice about leaving. At the end of that show, I had five orders, and three got cancelled.

Michael Amini  
Founder and CEO  
AICO

## Phones can be a challenge!

"My first trip to High Point, I parked against the closed-down Tomlinson Furniture Factory. I checked into the Sheraton on Main Street and then waited in line to get a phone to call my wife and business partner Judith to tell her I made it! Once I got a phone, I had to wait for a while to get a dial tone ...Of course, I still can't get a dial tone on my cell in the IHFC building today, but I have been coming back for almost 30 years."

A. John Rose,  
President  
Textillary Weavers

## The Market Square 'God'

I remember when Market Square opened and the talk was that God was in town and his name was Jake Froelich, the man who was the owner and visionary for the Market Square building. That was because everyone knew that it seemed to be an impossible feat to accomplish."

Habersham was one of the first tenants in the Market Square Building and is still there today — in space MS 142.

Matt Eddy  
President  
Habersham  
see Memories, p124



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