

Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents

Promoting Local History through Education and Research

<http://www.meckdec.org/>



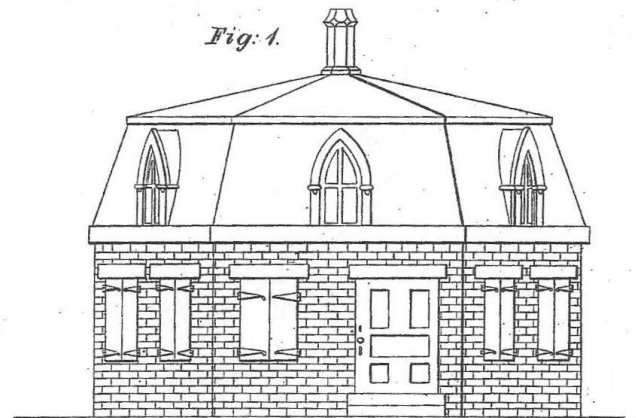
January-February, 2017
Volume 23, Number 1

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Harriet Morrison Irwin

Harriet Morrison Irwin was the first American woman to patent an architectural design. She was born Harriet Abigail Morrison on September 18, 1828 on Derita Road just north of Charlotte. Her father, Robert Hall Morrison, was the minister of nearby Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church, and of Charlotte's First Presbyterian. Her mother Mary Graham Morrison was born at Vesuvius Furnace in Lincoln County. Harriet was the third of their twelve children. In 1837 the family moved to Davidson College where her father had become its first president. He resigned his position in 1840 citing ill health as the reason. The family moved across the River near Mary's childhood home; Morrison assumed several Lincoln County pulpits.

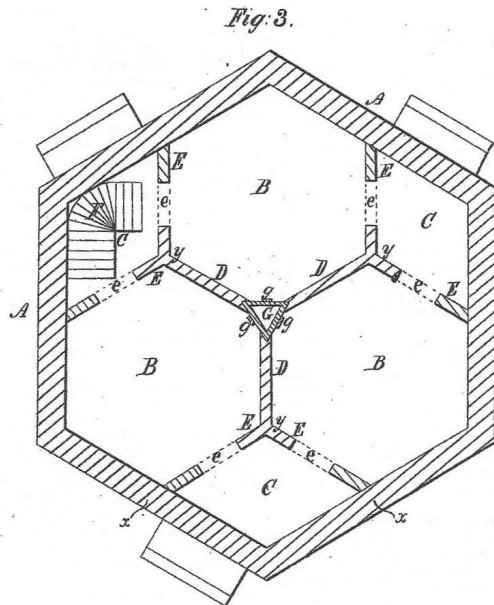


Harriet was a bookish sort and was educated at the Salem female academy. In November of 1849 at the age of twenty-one she married James Patton Irwin. Irwin was born into a Mecklenburg County family of great wealth derived from land and cotton. The newlyweds first lived in Mobile, Alabama where Irwin was a partner in a cotton brokerage firm. Harriet gave birth to a son who lived only days. Irwin thought a visit to North Carolina would benefit his grieving wife; however on their return journey to Alabama she became perilously ill and nearly died. After two more difficult years in Alabama, they returned to Charlotte. Harriet needed to be near her family and good medical care.

Harriet's health had always been fragile, and similar episodes would plague her all her life. Yet she lived to be sixty-nine and bore nine children, five of whom lived to adulthood. James, having come from a prosperous family, apparently had the resources and leisure to care for his delicate wife. They lived comfortably in a large home with plenty of servants. During the Civil War Harriet joined the Ladies' Aid Society, and James procured provisions for the soldiers. Afterwards James and his brother-in-law published and wrote for Charlotte's first magazine. Harriet was a frequent contributor.

After the war Harriet took an interest in architecture as she watched Charlotte undergo a huge building spree to serve its increasing population. Harriet had always been a creative thinker and keen observer who focused on health and efficiency. As an architect she was completely self-taught, yet she designed a six-sided house that efficiently used space and circulated heat and air to promote a healthier and less physically demanding lifestyle.

She applied for a patent, and on August 24, 1869 she received US Patent No. 94,116 for her hexagonal design titled "Improvement in the Construction of Houses". Octagonal homes were already being built, but in Harriet's mind the simpler six-sided home was more efficient.



Harriet probably correctly assumed that a female patent applicant might not be taken seriously. She filed her application under the name of H. M. Irwin. The three witnesses were M. A. Osborne, Rufus Barringer, and I. M. Hill. Barringer was her brother-in-law. The others were her sister Isabella Morrison Hill, and her sister-in-law Mary Ann Irwin Osborne. The application explains how hexagonal houses, consisting of three hexagonal rooms and three smaller diamond, or lozenge-shaped rooms on each floor, provide an efficient traffic pattern with no wasted space for hallways. Strategically placed windows and doors made excellent use of natural light and facilitated ventilation. A single centrally located chimney stack would heat the entire building with less fuel. Schematic diagrams were included.

Several houses in Charlotte were built to her plan including a two story home she and James lived in. James's fortunes continued to increase; the family wanted for nothing except health, as Harriet was frequently ill. In 1887 she suffered a paralyzing stroke which left her an invalid; she died in 1897. None of her hexagonal houses remain standing.

Ann Williams

St. Distaff's Day

January 7 is called St. Distaff's Day. The Christmas holiday ended on Twelfth Night and the girls went back to their spinning wheels and distaffs while the ploughmen returned to their plows.

Partly work and partly play
 You must on St. Distaff's Day;
 From the plough soon free your team;
 Then come home and fother them;
 If the maids a-spinning go,
 Burn the flax and fire the tow.
 Bring in pails of water then,
 Let the maids bewash the men.
 Give St. Distaff all the right;
 Then bid Christmas sport good night,
 And next morrow every one
 To his own vocation.

Robert Herrick (1591–1674)

From the Chairman

Helping and Supporting Each Other

I have needed help this year—more than I would have thought. After my terrible fall, I am still healing and my arms will never reach full range. My back has ‘collapsed’ and gone ‘crooked’ on me, making walking ‘new’ again and slow. I have been using a cane to help me walk. I sleep on a wedge because I cannot lie flat due to the compressed vertebrae. Overall I am making good progress but I still need help so don’t be afraid to give me your arm.

Rachel and I as your co-chairs for the next two years will need your help. I will take the first half of the year while she will take the last half. Do feel free to remind us of things or gently set the record straight. Do help us keep Docents running strong by doing things when asked. Support each other with your calls of encouragement or a friendly “Hi.” You can also help with hostessing and picking up plates and cups at meetings, or just by smiling. There is always something we can do.

This year the MHA Docents have two big projects. The newest one is Voices From the Past—our cemetery walk through Settlers and Elmwood cemeteries. Lynn Mintzer and Ann Williams are moving steadily ahead getting portrayals to tell the stories of some of the people lying there. Now we need to work on the mechanics of the event. All docents can help us here. We always do top-notch programs. Let this be another spectacular event for us. The other project this year is to work on the 2018 February Lecture Series. It does take a year ahead to put the series together; we can all help advertise the event and volunteer to register the participants. So, here’s to another great year for Docents.

Audrey Mellichamp

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the March/April issue of the Dandelion is February 15th.

MHA Docent Programs

Both meetings will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. Refreshments at 9:30, business meeting at 10, and program at 11. Visitors are always welcome.

Tuesday, January 3 Discovering Dave; Spirit Captured in Clay

Dave Drake was born into slavery about 1801 in the Edgefield district of South Carolina. In 1809 a superior clay was discovered in the area and before long a number of potteries had been established nearby. Dave, who did not take his surname until after the civil war, was owned by several of those potters and sometimes hired out to others. Dave’s pots were mostly storage jars, but simple they were not. Many were quite large, and turning a pot nearly as long as your arm in quite a feat. But the most remarkable feature of his work is that he signed his pots and decorated them with little poems. Some were straightforward, others strangely enigmatic. Because of their size, elegance, and literary embellishments his work is well documented and highly collectable.

We will view “Discovering Dave; Spirit Captured in Clay,” a video produced by George Wingard of the University of South Carolina; it is based on Leonard Todd’s excellent biography. Todd’s discovery of his own connection to Dave is a story in itself. Ann Williams will introduce us to Dave and his biographer, tell the serendipitous tale about acquiring the video, and share some of Dave’s verses.

**Tuesday, February 7
History of the Steele Creek Community**

Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, formed in 1760, was one of the “seven sisters” of early Mecklenburg churches. Linda Blackwelder will introduce us to the Steele Creek settlement in the southwest corner of Mecklenburg County. She’ll talk about some of the earliest settlers including those who were signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. She’ll tell us some interesting but little known facts about the area, and about the local effects brought about by the Revolutionary War. Linda will show us pictures of a number of old homes and buildings, and talk about their significance. Today Steele Creek is rapidly changing, but probably not for the better. Airport expansion and new office park construction are infringing dramatically on Steele Creek’s historic fabric.

Linda Blackwelder has lived in Steele Creek for many years, and has conducted much in-depth research into its past. She has long been an active member and leader of the Steele Creek Historical and Genealogical Society. She is currently working with other community members to preserve, if possible, the old Steele Creek Presbyterian Church and graveyard which are endangered by airport growth. The cemetery contains a number of elegantly carved, and very fragile, stones sculpted by members of the Bigham family workshop. Linda will bring us up to date on their situation.

Docent Board Retreat

The MHA Docent board will hold its annual retreat on Monday and Tuesday, January 9th and 10th. If you have a committee report or anything else to present to the board, please contact Audrey Mellichamp. She’ll convey your report or concern to the board, or put you on the agenda to appear in person. Give any budget requests to Valerie Jones.

Weather Cancellation Policy

The MHA Docents will follow CMS decisions on cancelling meetings due to inclement weather. If schools are closed due to weather, our meeting will not be held. If the schools are on a two hour delay we WILL meet as usual. School buses are scheduled to begin rolling about 6 am; therefore the roads should be clear by our meeting time. If schools are open, and the church is closed, you will be notified by email or telephone. On days when the weather is iffy, watch the news reports and check email.



MHA Dues

The time has come to pay your Mecklenburg Historical Association Dues for 2017; our fiscal year runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31. This one payment entitles you to be a member of MHA as well as an MHA Docent. If you have already paid, we thank you for paying early. If you are not sure whether you have already paid for this year, send an email to mhadandelion@mindspring.com and we will check and let you know. Otherwise select a membership level from the list below.

If you are an MHA member, or would like to become one, and NOT an MHA docent, use the form below (or the one from the MHA newsletter), make your check payable to Mecklenburg Historical Association, and send it to:

Mecklenburg Historical Association
P. O. Box 35032
Charlotte, NC 28235

If you are an MHA Docent member, or would like to become one, pay your dues directly to the docent treasurer who will remit them to the treasurer of MHA, our parent organization. Do not send your dues to the P.O. Box above, as that makes our record keeping of dues-paying docents difficult to maintain. Make your check payable to the MHA Docents and give your check with the form below to Valerie Jones at one of our meetings, or mail them to her at:

4700 Coronado Drive
Charlotte, NC 28212

Levels of MHA Membership

	Single	Couple
General	\$30.00	\$50.00
Senior (60+)	\$15.00	\$25.00
Patron	\$60.00	\$100.00
Life (single payment)	\$300.00	\$500.00
Student	free	n/a

MHA Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Please check one:

General Membership _____

MHA Docent Membership _____

North Branch MHA Membership _____

Please send my MHA Newsletter by:

Email _____

US Mail _____

If you have access to email, we would prefer to send the newsletter to you that way.

This saves considerable time, effort and expense for MHA.

Site News

Hugh Torance House and Store: Go Fund Me

The Hugh Torance House and store has initiated a Go Fund Me account to raise money for a new heating and air conditioning system. This historic site is one of Mecklenburg's few surviving 18th century structures, and we need your help to keep it operating. Last year it was discovered that squirrels and perhaps other critters had completely destroyed the HVAC ductwork under the house. That, combined with the age and deterioration of the existing unit, renders the entire system nonfunctional. The log house portion of the building was first used as a residence and dates to about 1779. In 1805 the building was expanded to include a store which operated until 1825. Extensive family history kept through generations allows us to interpret nearly a century of Mecklenburg's rich mercantile and plantation history.

The people who keep the site open are all volunteers who thoroughly enjoy seeing the delight on our visitors' faces when they encounter relics and stories from the past. To make our guests more comfortable, and to preserve our historic artifacts, we need a new heating and cooling unit. Our annual funding is limited, yet we want to see the structure survive. Please help us in reaching our goal. Even the smallest amount matters and all donations are tax deductible.

To contribute through Go Fund Me, go to <https://www.gofundme.com/new-hvac-unit> or you may send a check directly to the site at Hugh Torance House and Store, P.O. Box 2674, Huntersville, NC 28078. If you want to be recognized for your contribution contact hughtorancehouseandstore@gmail.com

Remembering Earl: Music & Stories, Benefit Performance, Saturday, January 14 at 7:30 pm, Shelby High School Auditorium.

The Earl Scruggs Center in Shelby presents a very special concert featuring Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell, Sam Bush, Jon Randall, Jessi Alexander and Emcee Eddie Stubbs sharing music and stories about legendary banjo master Earl Scruggs who died in 2012. Tickets are \$30, \$45 or \$55 and there are a limited number of VIP packages available which include a reception after the concert.

All of the artists are Scruggs-family friends and all of them sat in with the "Earl Scruggs with Family & Friends" band at one time or another, including his four-part series as Artist in Residence at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in September of 2004. Emmylou Harris is a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame and both Emmylou and Earl received Honorary Doctorates of Music from the Berklee College of Music. For tickets and more information see www.earlscruggscenter.org

Abraham Lincoln is Coming to Town

The Sons of the American Revolution will welcome Abraham Lincoln to Charlotte at their President's Day Community Dinner on Thursday, February 23, beginning at 6 pm at the Hilton Charlotte Executive Park Hotel, 5624 Westpark Drive in Charlotte.

Historical actor Dennis Boggs will present an enlightening, informative, and educational look at the life of the 16th President as it would have been told by Mr. Lincoln himself: From Lincoln's birth in the wilderness of Kentucky to his early years in Indiana and Illinois – from storekeeper to self-taught lawyer and politician – through his years as President during the Civil War and his death at the hands of an assassin in Ford's Theater. Mr. Boggs is a fulltime Lincoln presenter with over 250 performances per year, coast to coast.

Admission to the dinner and evening program with Mr. Lincoln is \$28 per person or \$15 for children's dinner. Mail your check, made payable to the Mecklenburg Chapter SAR, c/o Tom Phlegar, 7324 Marlbrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212-4770. For more information, or ticket requests for larger groups please contact Jay Joyce at jay@mecklenburgsar.org, 704-526-9548., or http://www.mecklenburgsar.org/chapternews_abraham_lincoln_2017dinner.html

Stitches in Time: Sampler Workshop, Three Saturdays in January and February, Fee \$140, Registration Deadline January 3, Schiele Museum, Gastonia.

Lucinda Thornburg, nationally renowned needleworker will lead “Stitches in Time: A Study of Early American Samplers.” She will guide an investigation to piece together the story of two historical samplers. Motifs from the 1700’s, 16 specific stitches and a combination of terms and phrases utilized in the making of these rare samplers will be explored.

The two samplers to be investigated were made in 1789 by Magdalen Ganesvoort, age 12, and in 1802 by Mary Helen Kelly, age 12. The workshop sessions will be Saturday, January 7 from 9 am to 3 pm, lunch included, Saturday January 21 from 9 am to noon, and Saturday, February 4 from 9 am to noon. To register: Contact Beth Welch at bethwe@cityofgastonia.com or call 704-854-6676.

Nothing Could Be Finer, Saturday, January 7 at 2 pm.

In conjunction with the Sampler Workshop, noted needleworker Pat Veasey will present “Southern Schoolgirl Needlework from the Carolina Piedmont, 1800-1860.” She will focus on twenty embroideries of the 19th century South, and the Carolina Piedmont. Analysis of these pieces includes the styles, patterns and techniques evident in each work.

The History Calendar

Admission charged at all events unless otherwise noted.

Check the Charlotte Regional History Consortium website for other events.

<http://www.charlotteregionalhistory.org>

Historic Rosedale

3427 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC, 704 335 0325, <http://www.historicrosedale.org>

Big Backyard Bird Count, Saturday, February 18 from 10 am to 1 pm.

Historic Rosedale is a registered site for the 2017 Big Backyard Bird Count and we welcome everyone who wants to participate in this highly recognized Audubon event. Rosedale is an 8.9 acre urban green space and National Wildlife Federation certified bird-friendly habitat.

Pruning Workshop, Saturday, February 25 at 10 am.

How does pruning help? Botanist Dr. Mellichamp will demonstrate how proper pruning increases flower production, encourages new and healthy growth and provides the basis for a beautifully shaped tree, shrub or perennial.

Forging Ahead, Saturday, February 25 from noon to 4 pm.

February is Black History Month and it is a time to look back at the heritage of slavery in our nation, and the enslaved history in our own region. Historic Rosedale Plantation takes special note in telling accurate histories of the enslaved who lived at the plantation.

Historic Latta Plantation

5225 Sample Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 2312, <http://www.lattaplantation.org>

Civil War Winter Quarters and Life on the Home Front, Saturday January 7 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday, January 8 from 1 to 4 pm.

In the 19th century, winter was an extremely hard time. As the years of the American Civil War (1861 – 1865) continued times got even harder. This living history event will demonstrate the life of Civil War Soldiers and

civilians. What was done to survive the cold, what the military day was like, what was eaten, and what was done to break up the monotony of camp life.

The Battle of Cowan's Ford, Saturday, Jan. 28 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday, Jan. 29 from 1 to 4 pm.

On February 1st, 1781 Lord Cornwallis and 5,000 British soldiers crossed the Catawba River at Cowan's Ford just north of Latta. Major General William Lee Davidson with 500 militia opposed the crossing. This living history event will commemorate, educate and demonstrate this event in our history. There will be cooking, militia drill, camp life, musket firing and music.

The Charlotte Museum of History

3500 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC, 704 568 1774, <http://www.charlottemuseum.org>

Twelfth Night, Saturday, January 7 at 6 pm.

Twelfth Night marked the end of the Christmas season and was celebrated with great revelry. Join with the Backcountry folk as they sing carols around the bonfires, toast the fruit trees, and play colonial games. Learn about the history of Twelfth Night and take a candlelight tour of the house. Enjoy cider and Twelfth Night cake in the log kitchen.

Queen Victoria Tea, Sunday January 15 at 4 pm.

To celebrate the release of the new PBS series "Victoria," this tea will explore the life and times of Queen Victoria who came to the throne in 1837 at the age of eighteen. She reigned for almost sixty-four years, during one of the great periods of the British Empire. Learn about this remarkable monarch while enjoying English tea and a selection of confections.

Family Fun Days, Saturdays, January 14 and February 25 from 1 to 4 pm, Free.

The Museum is partnering with Drums 4 Life to produce Family Fun Days celebrating African American culture. This event explores Justice, Protest and Inspiration and features an African drum circle, African American history in Charlotte, and a craft activity for children. A local poet and artist will add poetry and a collective art project involving attendees.

ASC Connect With Culture Day, Saturday, January 28 from 1 to 5 pm, Free.

The Museum is one of the locations for the Arts & Science Council's Third Annual Connect with Culture Day, featuring food, music and performances that highlight the cultural diversity of East Charlotte. There will be free guided tours of the Hezekiah Alexander House and self-guided tours of the museum galleries.

Backcountry Explorers: Colonial Occupations, Saturday, February 4 at 1 pm.

Children can become Backcountry Explorers and journey through our region's history. This year, we will be learning all about Colonial professions and this month we are exploring the job of an apothecary (druggist). Come join us to learn about this trade and put your new knowledge into action with a fun craft!

The Uncommon Bond of Julia and Rose, Saturday, February 11 at 1 pm, Free.

Author Ann Williams has researched and written about antebellum plantations for many years, and has been an interpreter at most of Mecklenburg's historic plantation sites. She will talk about how her new book came to be, do a bit of myth busting, and cite historic sources for some of the story's events. Then she will open the floor for discussion. Books will be available for purchase.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

12031 Lancaster Hwy., Pineville, NC, 704 889 7145

www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

The Vanishing Holiday: Twelfth Night, Saturday, January 7 at 11 am, Free.

Ron Vinson, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat, NC, will discuss Twelfth Night from its medieval origins through Shakespeare's 1602 play, to observances in Colonial Carolinas.

Volunteer Open House, Thursday, January 19 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, Free.

Learn about the park's volunteer program with light refreshments and guided cabin tours.

Love Stories of the Carolina Presidents, Saturday, February 18 at 11 am, at Andrew Jackson State Park, SC, Free.

On President's Day Weekend learn about the romances of Rachel & Andrew Jackson and Sarah & James K. Polk from the staff of the President James K. Polk State Historic Site and Andrew Jackson State Park.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

Cherokee Attack, Saturday February 25 from 9 am to 5 pm with an evening program at 6:30. Sunday February 26 from 10 am to 3 pm, Free.

This living history program commemorates the 1760 Cherokee attack on Fort Dobbs. The weekend will feature on-going displays of military camp life, as well as scheduled musket and cannon firing demonstrations.

Matthews Heritage Museum

232 North Trade St., Matthews, 704 708 4996, www.matthewsheritagemuseum.org

The Trains under the Tree Exhibit Closes on Saturday January 21.

An Exhibit on the Red Cross opens In February.

This exhibit celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Matthews Chapter of the American Red Cross. We would like to interview anyone who has been helped by the Red Cross. If you or someone you know received life-saving blood during an operation or assistance with clothing or housing during a disaster, please share your story by contacting Barbara Taylor at the Museum at 704-708-4996 or at info@matthewsheritagemuseum.org.

Historic Brattonsville

1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells, SC, 803 684 2327

<http://www.chmuseums.org/brattonsville>

Hog Butchering Day, Saturday January 14 from 10 am to 4 pm.

This annual Hog Butchering Day highlights the age-old tradition of butchering and preserving pork for the year ahead. Costumed interpreters will butcher two hogs and preserve the meat using 19th century techniques and demonstrate processes associated with butchering including making cracklins', rendering lard, and making soap. The Historic Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley will prepare many familiar and not so familiar pork dishes just

as our ancestors did. Spoons BBQ Truck will be there throughout the day, so come on out and enjoy the sights and smells. It promises to be an educational and entertaining day.

Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site

9621 Reed Mine Rd., Midland, NC 28163, 704 721 GOLD (4653)

<http://www.nchistoricsites.org/reed/reed.htm>

Black Gold: NC Slavery and Reed Gold Mine, Saturdays in February (4, 11, 18, 25) at 3 pm.

Germans, Scotch-Irish, and Cornish settlers were not the only ones living in Cabarrus County in the early days. There were also enslaved African Americans who helped to build up this part of the country.

Charlotte Folk Society

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte

www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Folk Society Gathering & Jams, Friday, January 13, features Carrying It On: 16th Annual Young Talent Showcase, Free.

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. 7:30 PM. Doors open 7:00 PM. 30+ impressive young musicians and dancers perform in a range of genres - old-time, bluegrass, folk, and Celtic. Family-friendly & Free; donations appreciated. Free parking. Refreshments, song circle, songwriter's workshop, and jams follow concert. Accessible entry & elevator on ground floor. 704-563-7080; www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Folk Society Gathering & Jams, Friday, February 10, features Bluegrass by Grammy-nominated band Special Consensus, Free.

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. 7:30 PM. Doors open 7:00 PM. Family-friendly & Free; donations appreciated. Free parking. Refreshments, song circle, songwriter's workshop, and jams follow concert. Accessible entry & elevator on ground floor. 704-563-7080; www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

U.S. Colored Troops Living History.

- **Saturday, February 11 from 2 to 4 pm, Independence Regional Library.**
- **Saturday, February 18 from 11 am to 3 pm, Beatties Ford Road Regional Library.**

Maurice Johnson, a member of the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops Reenactment Group will present and discuss African American troops from the Revolutionary War to Civil War and after. Find out how African American soldiers entered into the armed forces, how they lived, what conditions they faced, and how their role was vital in both wars. Mr. Johnson will be in full reenactment uniform.

Duke Mansion

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte, 704 714 4400

<http://www.dukemansion.com>

Mid-Century Modernism: Architecture & Interior Design, Sunday, February 26 at 3 pm, Free

Ron Crider will discuss mid-century Charlotte architecture and interior design and show the design elements that influenced mid-century home construction and interior design from the 1930s through the 1960s.

Historic Rural Hill

4431 Neck Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 3113, <http://www.ruralhill.net>

Hogmanay and First Footin', Sunday, January 1 – New Years Day – from 11 am to 1 pm, Free.

Celebrate the Scottish New Year (Hogmanay) with a traditional walk around the farm (First Footin'). This vigorous walk around the farm's 2.25 mile trail will stop along the way to discuss the history and folklore of the site. Then at noon partake of stone soup. Bring along fresh or canned vegetables for the soup or bread or dessert to add to the feast.

If you do not think you are physically able to do the walk, please come anyway. It's a great time for fellowship at the Rural Retreat Cabin Site, which will be open for this occasion.

Davidson Historical Society

Post Office Box 144, Davidson, NC 28036

<http://www.davidsonhistoricalsociety.org>

Living History: Doing Business in Davidson, Sunday, January 29 at 4 pm, Congregation House, Davidson College Presbyterian Church, 208 Concord Road, Free.

This is a panel discussion with people who have been involved in past and current businesses in Davidson. Businesses include Elox Industries, Hoke Lumber, The Needlecraft Center, The Hub and Raeford's Barber Shop. They will share their experiences and answer questions. Audience participation is encouraged.

Andrew Jackson State Park

196 Andrew Jackson Park Road, Lancaster, SC 803 285 3344

www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1797.aspx

State Parks First Day Hikes, Sunday, January 1 at 2 pm.

For all walkers and hikers, especially military personnel, at all South Carolina State Parks plus Crowder's Mountain in North Carolina. See which branch of the Armed Forces can hike the most miles in a single day. Pick your park, register with the ranger and look for results on Face Book. Local parks are Andrew Jackson, Kings Mountain & Landsford Canal in South Carolina and Crowder's Mountain in North Carolina

Battle of New Orleans Discovery Day, Sunday, January 8 at 2 pm.

View a presentation at the Meeting House, visit with War of 1812 soldiers to hear stories of Jackson's men at the battle and visit the battle exhibit in the museum.

Love Stories of the Carolina Presidents, Saturday, February 18 at 11 am.

On President's Day Weekend learn about the romances of Rachel & Andrew Jackson and Sarah & James K. Polk from the staff of the President James K. Polk State Historic Site and Andrew Jackson State Park.

Sons of the American Revolution

Information contact: Jay Joyce at jay@mecklenburgsar.org or call 704-526-9548.

The Night before Cowan's Ford, Friday, January 27 at 5:30 pm, dinner, \$37.00.

The SAR, DAR, Davidson College, and the Town of Davidson invite you to commemorate the Battle of Cowan's Ford with a cash bar, dinner, pomp and circumstance, and a night of honor, celebration, socializing and remembrance. This event will be at the River Run Country Club in Davidson. For reservations see the contact information above.

Belmont Historical Society

40 Catawba Street, Belmont, NC

info@belmontnc-hs.org**They Came Through Here, Thursday, January 19 at 7 pm, First Baptist Church Assembly Room, Central Avenue, Belmont, NC.**

Newly discovered history that has been hidden for 237 years now extends the Kings Mountain story to include footprints in the Catawba River valley, including Gaston, Lincoln, Catawba, Mecklenburg, Iredell, and Cleveland counties. Evidence has been found that reveals new roles for South Carolina Colonels Thomas Sumter and James Williams and locates a mustering site in Iredell County that was previously unknown. Randell Jones, author of *Before They Were Heroes at King's Mountain*, will tell of this exciting new history discovered with the collaboration of two independent scholars and share exciting additions to the exploits of Major William Chronicle and his "South Fork Boys."

MHA Docents
Jim and Ann Williams
1601 South Wendover Road
Charlotte, NC 28211