

Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents

Promoting Local History through Education and Research

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



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Naming Ways in the Backcountry

The Scots-Irish who settled in Mecklenburg named their children as their forbears had done using well-worn names such as John, James, Robert, William, David, Hugh, and Joseph; or Mary, Martha, Sarah, Elizabeth, Jane, and Isabella. Many are familiar biblical names with a sprinkling of the more exotic such as Hezekiah and Ezekiel.

Oldest sons were usually named for paternal grandfathers; first cousins sharing the same name abounded. Second and third sons were typically named for their fathers and maternal grandfathers in no particular order. Subsequent sons were named for other relations, or perhaps a pleasing name was chosen honoring no one. Girls could be named for mothers, grandmothers, or aunts, but their naming patterns were more random. Our earliest settlers tended to come in extended family groups bearing many shared names, a source of endless confusion for today's genealogists. These were customs, not rules. The Scots-Irish were not fond of rules. Some went far afield when naming their children. William R. Davie had two sons; one named for his father-in-law, and one named Hyder Ali after Hyder Ali Kahn, the Sultan of Mysore in India. Hyder Ali had joined the French to defeat the British Army in India, a feat much admired by Davie.

It appears those settlers were also bothered by the confusion, and began giving their children middle names. In the 18th century few Mecklenburg residents had middle names, but there were some notable exceptions. John McKnitt Alexander, born in 1733, was the only one of his fourteen siblings and half siblings to have a middle name, a privilege he extended to four of his five children. Dr. David Thomas Caldwell's grandfather was also David Thomas Caldwell. Sources disagree as to whether General William Lee Davidson was given a middle name or adopted "Lee" for himself.

The use of middle names grew a bit at the end of the 18th century. Hezekiah Alexander gave them to two of his ten children. James Galbraith Torrance, Benjamin Wilson Davidson, and David Thomas Caldwell were all children of the 1780s and 90s. In the 19th century middle naming increased dramatically. Nine of Torrance's thirteen children, all eight of Caldwell's children, and 56 of Major John Davidson's 63 grandchildren had middle names. Surnames of extended family members often became middle names of both boys and girls.

Did this end the confusion? Not completely. Large families had to scramble to find a pair of names for ten or more children; sometimes several siblings had the same middle name. In John McKnitt's smallish family, three children shared the middle name of Bain, their mother's maiden name. As the use of middle names increased more people were called by them. In public documents and in signatures, even on personal letters to a parent or sibling, full names were almost always used. The texts of letters, journals, and personal papers often reveal what a person was called. David Thomas Caldwell was probably called Thomas. The Clue: in several formal documents he is Thomas David Caldwell. Adam Brevard Davidson was frequently recorded as Brevard Adam, family letters call him Brevard, and his gravestone says A. Brevard Davidson.

Nicknames became more popular during this time. Major John Davidson’s namesake was called Jacky; his oldest son Robert was called Robin, even though there were no other Roberts in the family. Sam, Dick, Joe, and Jim slowly began to enter the nomenclature. Some girls’ nicknames are perplexing: Sarahs were called Sally, but Marys were Polly, Marthas were Patsy, and Nancy could be called Ann, or Ann could be called Nancy. Margaret Caldwell was Minnie, but Margaret Osborne was Peggy. Our ancestors naming patterns may confound us, but they never cease to amuse us.

Ann Williams

From the Chairman

It was in November 2014 that Larry and I attended the Williamsburg Historical Chocolate Symposium. And I am still smiling and dancing. “Wonders of wonders, miracles of miracles,” when Larry said YES to going with me. Now granted, Larry knows history – the history of plants and significant dates to reference plant discoveries, and he does teach about chocolate in his Economic Botany class. This type of history, though, is my “thing.” So we attended the presentations and learned so much about chocolate. We were having FUN learning, though we both realized the first evening that you can have death by chocolate. A plateful of goodies and truffles made with dark, rich, delicious chocolate did me in. But of course, we had to eat more. It was a chocolate symposium after all.

It wasn’t until Larry had his workshop on making chocolate from the cacao beans, that I had my greatest thrill watching Larry talk about his burner and his sparks, then roasting his beans in the iron skillet. This hands-on learning experience bought home the lessons better than anything. Even adults can have fun learning by doing. At that point, I realized something--we need to do more of this. We adults need to learn new historical things by being there watching or actually doing it.

SO, I challenge each of you to learn something new historically this year. Either by going to a new site or attending an old site, watch or learn a skill--blacksmithing, tating, oilcloth making, weaving, playing the dulcimer. Something. Just do it. This year of 2015.

Audrey Mellichamp

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, March 3, 2015

Chocolate: Early America’s Favorite Drink



Money does grow on trees! Cacao pods are the fruits of the “chocolate” tree that originated in tropical America. Each pod contains about 50 seeds, or “beans.” In the Aztec society of the 1400’s, one cacao bean could buy one tamale. Today, it is a multi-billion dollar industry around the world.



Dr. Larry Mellichamp will present a program on cacao, its history, where it grows, how it is harvested and fermented, dried, and then turned into chocolate. It was a very important adult drink in Colonial times, at first flavored with cinnamon and cayenne, and later with a little sugar. See “From the Chairman” in this newsletter for more about Larry’s venture into Chocolate.

Dr. Mellichamp is Director Emeritus of the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens. You can go to the conservatory there and see ripening cacao pods on their tree. <http://gardens.uncc.edu>

Tuesday, April 7, 2015
The Catawba Valley Decorative Arts Survey

The Catawba Valley Decorative Arts Survey was established in the 1990s to document the material culture of our ancestors in Mecklenburg and the surrounding counties. Since then Linda Dalton and Jane Estep have been documenting and photographing furniture, textiles, books, papers, paintings and artwork, needlework, silver, pewter, tin, iron, glass, and ceramics made or used in the area from 1750 through 1850. Some of the items are in museums or public collections, many are privately owned. Linda and Jane began their investigation in Rowan County, an early center for artisans, and spread their search across the entire area. For the April program they will bring slides of some of their best finds, point out interesting details, and share stories of their adventures along the way.

Both Linda and Jane had considerable interest and knowledge of material culture when the project began. After twenty years of exploring Southern decorative arts, they are indeed experts.

Meeting Cancellation Policy

MHA Docent meetings will be canceled due to bad weather if CMS schools are closed. If schools are on a two hour delay, we WILL meet, as some schools will have opened at 9 am. If the church is closed, even though schools are open, docents will be notified by email or phone tree.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May through August issue of the Dandelion is April 14th. Send us your events for the entire summer. This would also be a good time to share your favorite summer historic destination.

MHA Dinner Meeting

American Plants of Colonial Times: From the Wilds of Carolina to the Gardens of the World

Monday, March 23, at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Dinner at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:15. Those not having dinner are welcome to enjoy the program at no charge. To make a reservation for dinner use the form in you MHA Newsletter or contact Jane Johnson at 704-544-0695 or JJCNC@aol.com.

Dr. Larry Mellichamp will present this program originally slated for last year's educational series, "Beyond the Wagon Road", that was canceled due to wintry weather. We are very pleased to offer it again.

The 1700s was the greatest period for botanical exploration and discovery in the Colonies of the New World. Dr. Mellichamp will talk about the major people involved in this exploration--Mark Catesby, the Bartrams, and André Michaux to name a few-- and some of the most famous plants discovered--such as flame azalea, mountain laurel, big leaf magnolia, pitcher plants, Oconee bells, and the now extinct *Franklinia*.

Dr. Larry Mellichamp is Professor Emeritus of Botany and Director Emeritus of the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens.

MHA Dues

Thanks to all of you who have paid this year's MHA dues! If you have not paid, please do so as soon as possible. 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

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Couple</u>
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 and expense for MHA.

The Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley

Our Cooking Roots

Carolyn Dilda had an idea in 1997 when she heard that docent Barbara Goodwin had cooked at historical sites in New Jersey. Here was a way to combine their passions, history and cooking. Could they pull it off? There were discussions and meetings with interested people and those who shook their heads. The James K. Polk site manager took them on, and they promised each other to stick it out for a year. Sixteen years later we met for an anniversary celebration at our home site, the President James K. Polk State Historic Site in Pineville. Over a lunch of roast chicken, fresh green salad, rolls and ice cream and cake, we talked about our favorite memories.

Foremost, of course, were the people we worked with. Some stayed briefly; others attended most of our sessions for years. Each had something to offer: Carolyn and Barbara's fount of knowledge, Sharon VanKuren's organizational skills and knowledge of clothing. Cathy Davis's magic hands produced pastry like Grandma made, and Audrey Mellichamp was interested in edible wild plants. Many in our ranks are retired ladies who balance family health concerns with their participation. It is a painful decision to hang up one's apron and step back to associate status. Still, our friends are always welcome.

Next, were our memorable lessons, especially the wildlife we prepared. Bear, including a jar of fat, was a big hit. If someone hunted it, we cooked it--deer, elk, bison, rabbits, game birds and fish. There was the wily possum who heard that he was on the menu and managed to eat his way out of his cage, but we did eventually cook another. We explored different methods of cooking as done in 1800, using foods available locally and in season, and ingredients that could have been purchased. One of our most popular techniques is hanging a chicken on a string before the hearth to turn and cook evenly.

Two special events were Ivan Day's visit and a historic banquet. Ivan Day, noted historical cook in England, showed us how to use molds. Carolyn had attended his course in England and contacted him when she learned he was coming to the States. We used wood, tin and iron molds. Some require greasing, others have to be soaked.

The crowning achievement was a game pie made in a coffin, which is a particularly thick pastry crust.

The historic banquet was partly a fund-raiser and also a test of our abilities. We sold raffle tickets for a dozen seats. The winners were greeted by musicians and a lovely table in the main house at the James K Polk Historic Site. Sharon, as hostess, led our guests through proper behavior at a period feast. Yard square napkins around the neck, they were served three courses, a total of 32 dishes.

The money earned from the banquet was used for our trip to Philadelphia. We had been invited there by Past Masters, a renowned group of historical cooks, to learn how to use a

bake oven. We slept at their historic site, but no one informed the local police. They arrived after midnight to see who was looting public property. Then we had to be up at 4 AM to start the fire. While it was heating, we prepared bread dough. Carolyn came up with period receipts for some of the extra ingredients. We acquitted ourselves well.



We've attended and participated in ALHFAM conferences, courses at Williamsburg and elsewhere, and ever so many historic venues. Word of our accomplishments spread, and we've had more invitations than we can accept. However, our first priority is always to educate students and the general public in historic foodways.

Now in our eighteenth year, the Cooking Guild continues to teach third graders under a tent while our kitchen roof is repaired from a fire. We have prepared a workshop on Historic Fats for the regional Association of Living History Farms and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) meeting in Alabama in February, 2015. We also hope to present a panel discussion on "Cooks – You Are Your Greatest Tool" at the national ALHFAM conference in Williamsburg, Virginia in June, 2015. So we'll keep cooking...and researching...and having fun!

Leila Merims, Linda Beverly, and Audrey Mellichamp

Candlemas

In the most recent Docent Meeting, on February 2, Audrey Mellichamp pointed out that it was Candlemas, and shared some of the lore. Barbara Goodwin contributed following:

Candlemas, February 2, is the astrological and Christian observance of the midpoint of winter between the winter solstice and the vernal equinox. It was the observance of Mosaic Law by Mary and Joseph at the temple forty days after Jesus' birth. It was the blessing of the candles in Christian churches when candles were distributed to the needy. Celtic countries told tales of animals emerging from hibernation on Candlemas and predicting the next forty days of winter, a folklore that led to our Groundhog Day. In the 18th century, and probably long before, it was the traditional day to take stock of household goods to determine if there was enough to last through winter.

From the Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary: Candlemas, or feast of the candles (mass means feast), refers to the candles carried in the celebration and festival on February 2 commemorating the presentation of Christ in the Temple and the purification of the Virgin Mary.

In Memoriam

Long time Docent Mary Morgan died February 7, 2015 at the age of 94. Mary became a docent in 1984 after retiring from Southern Bell. She was active at the Charlotte Museum of History and later at Historic Rosedale. Mary had been in poor health for a number of years and was unable to attend our meetings, but she kept up her membership until the end of her life. She was a quiet person, but she loved history and treasured being part of our group.

Site News

Hugh Torance House and Store

In preparation for spring and summer tours at the Hugh Torance House and Store, a training session for docents will be held on Saturday, April 11 from 2 to 4 pm. This is a very special North Mecklenburg site that combines 18th and 19th century architecture with mercantile and cotton plantation history. Tours are given on the first and third Sunday afternoons of each month from April through October. If you are interested becoming a docent contact Ann Williams at 704-365-2402 or ann.williams@mindspring.com.

Camellia Flower Show and Plant Sale at the Historic White Home, Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15 from 1 to 5 pm, Free.

This show is sponsored by the Charlotte Camellia Society and is being held this year at the 1839 Historic White Home on White Street in Rock Hill. There will be hundreds of Camellias in bloom and judging will be by the American Camellia Society. The Society's home in Charlotte is Historic Rosedale where they have established a historic Camellia garden.

Charlotte 240, a project of the Charlotte Museum of History.

Charlotte 240 is a multi-media digital history project celebrating 240 years of Charlotte history in honor of the Hezekiah Alexander House reaching that milestone. It will consist of 240 vignettes highlighting the people, artifacts, buildings, architecture, places, environment, art, ideas, events, women, men, war, etc. that make up the collective history of our region. Notable guest authors from around the region will contribute essays.

Currently posted on the History Museum web site at www.charlottemuseum.org are:

- Catawba Indian Nation by Richard Carney
- European Immigrants to Mecklenburg County, North Carolina by Hugh Dussek, Ph.D.
- Hezekiah Alexander Home Site reaches 240 Year Milestone by Kay Peninger
- King Hagler, Catawba Chieftain by Mary Kratt
- The Formation of Mecklenburg County by Jim Williams
- The Southern Campaign of the American Revolution: Significant Battles by William Lee Anderson III
- Thomas "Kanawha" Spratt, Early Settler and Friend of the Catawba by Jim Williams

Latta Summer Camps

Historic Latta Plantation announces their summer camps for this year. These camps generally sell out so it is not too early now to make your reservations. Here are the dates for the camps. For details and to register go to www.lattaplantation.org

Soldier Camps:

- Civil War Soldier Camp (ages 8-12) July 20-23 and August 3-6 (9am-3pm)
- Revolutionary War Soldier Camp (ages 8-12) June 15-18 (9am-3pm)

Girls Camps:

- Miss Jane's Academy (ages 8-12) July 20-23 and August 3-6 (9am-3pm)

Farm Camps:

- Mini Farm Camp (ages 4-5) June 2-4 and August 11-13 (9am-12pm)
- Junior Farm Camp (ages 6-8) June 22-25 and July 27-30 (9am-3pm)
- Advanced Farm Camp (ages 13-17) June 22-26 (9am-4pm)

History Camps:

- Historical Encounters (ages 9-12) July 7-10 (9am-3pm)
- Historical Ambassadors (ages 12+) July 13-16 (9am-3pm)

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>

Oyster Roast Fundraiser, Saturday, March 21 from 2 to 5 pm.

Tour the 1815 plantation house and support the historic site in its bicentennial year. Enjoy roasted oysters with all the fixings plus a low country boil, craft beer, children's activities, live music and hot dogs for the kids. Bring your own gloves and oyster knives, rain or shine.

Latta Plantation

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

Celtic Festival, Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Celebrate all things Celtic including authentic cuisine, brew, music, vendors, and historical demonstrations plus children's activities, games and face painting.

Celtic Concert Fundraiser, Saturday March 14 at 6 pm.

An evening under the stars with Celtic food vendors and local breweries. Bands including the Thistledown Tinkers, Sterling Bridge, Loch Norman Pipes

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 4, 10 am to 4 pm.

Online registration opens March 1 and all sessions fill up quickly

Crochet Workshop, Saturday, April 18 at 10 am to 2 pm.

Learn basic crochet stitches and make a washcloth. Participants will receive one skein of cotton yarn and a crochet hook to keep! Please bring a bag lunch to eat during the workshop.

The Charlotte Museum of History

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

Downton Abbey Tea, Sunday, March 1 at 4 pm.

Enjoy freshly brewed English tea, scones, tea sandwiches, and sweets as we talk about the dramatic changes coming to Downton Abbey, upstairs and below as the residents negotiate the Roaring Twenties.

Civil War Forum, Saturday, March 14 from 9 am to 3:30 pm.

Join us for the Charlotte Mecklenburg 150th Anniversary Civil War Symposium, featuring preeminent Civil War historian Gary Gallagher, along with noted historians Gordon McKinney, Chris Hartley, Suzy Barile, and Larry Walker. Doors open at 8:30 am. Register in advance. Visit www.charlottemuseum.org for complete registration information and fees.

Women's History Tea, Sunday, March 22 at 4 pm.

In honor of women's history month, historian Ann Williams will share the fascinating stories of six nineteenth-century women who lived in Mecklenburg County. We will enjoy freshly brewed tea, scones, tea sandwiches, and sweets.

Schiele Museum

1500 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, N.C. 704 866 6900 <https://www.schielemuseum.org>

Spring Festival, Sunday, March 22 from 1 to 5 pm.

Still is the toiling hand of Care; The panting herds repose:

Yet hark, how through the peopled air, The busy murmur glows! Thomas Gray, 1753

Spring is here! Immerse yourself in the exciting bustle of seasonal activity. See the Main House busy with spring cleaning. Help with stuffing fresh straw in a bed "tick. Watch as skilled interpreters prepare and bake a traditional tansy in a Dutch oven. Enjoy displays of eggs dyed naturally in rainbow colors.

Sheepshearing, Sunday, April 26 from 1 to 5 pm.

Each spring the sheep are sheared (given a haircut) at the Backcountry Farm; it keeps the sheep cool in the summer and the wool is made into cloth to keep the Pioneer family warm in the winter. See historical interpreters in 18th century dress card and spin the freshly shorn wool into thread. Try your hand at shearing or the simple craft of weaving on a tape loom. Discover the difference between a shortgown and a waist coat as youngsters "dress the part" of a backcountry child.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

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

www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

Historic Tatting, Fridays, March 13 and 27 from 2 to 4 pm, Free.

Volunteer Michele Glover will explore with visitors this historic weaving technique. This drop-in program will take place in the museum lobby.

America 1844, An Evening with Author John Bicknell, Thursday, May 14 at 7 pm, free.

Author John Bicknell will discuss his new book, *America 1844*, exploring a variety of important events from 1844, including the momentous election of that year

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

War for Empire, Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Experience life on the North Carolina frontier during the French and Indian War through battle re-enactments, living history encampments, historical vignettes and lectures.

Matthews Heritage Museum

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

Dr. and Mrs. Reid's Lawn Party, Saturday, April 11 from noon to 4 pm, 134 John Street, Matthews, Free. Turn-of-the-(20th)-century activities include games, demonstrations of making root beer and butter and crafts; making kazoos and spinning tops. Dr. and Mrs. Reid will welcome you to their home and tours will be given of the Reid House. See three antique cars from the 1910s and 1920s.

Charlotte Folk Society

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte

www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Folk Society Gathering Concert & Jams, Friday, March 13, Mipso Southern String Band

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. 7:30 PM; doors open 7:00 PM. Free; donations appreciated. www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Folk Society Gathering Concert & Jams, April 10, Andrea Beaton Trio

Traditional Cape Breton Scottish fiddling and piping.

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. 7:30 PM; doors open 7:00 PM. Free; donations appreciated. www.folksociety.org

Duke Mansion

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte, 704 714 4400

<http://www.dukemansion.com>

At Home at the Duke Mansion, Sunday, March 15 at 3 pm, Free.

2015 marks the 100th Anniversary of the grand Duke Mansion. To kick off a year of special programs, some of the history-making families who resided here will share memories. You'll hear about Buick wholesaler and WBT radio ("Watch Buicks Travel") owner C.C. Coddington. About the Cannon and Lineberger families who shaped the region's textile economy. About the founders of TV's Raycom Sports.

Hosted by Levine Museum historian Dr. Tom Hanchett.

John Nolen's Landscape Legacy, Sunday, April 26 at 3 pm, Free.

Perhaps the most important landscape planner of the early 20th century, Boston-based John Nolen designed the tree-shaded avenues and greenways of the Myers Park neighborhood. Levine Museum historian Dr. Tom Hanchett gives an illustrated talk, then leads a brief walking tour.

Rural Hill

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

Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games, Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19.

Celtic Music, Highland Heavy Athletics, Bagpipe Bands, Highland Dancing, Children's Activities, Food and Merchandise Vendors, Scottish Country Dancing, Historic Reenactments, Scotch Whisky Tastings, Kilted Running Events, Long Bow and Battle Axe Contests and Individual Piping and Drumming. See www.lochnorman.com for more information.

Historic Brattonsville

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

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

Children's Day on the Farm, Saturday, March 28 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Experience farm life in the 18th and 19th centuries with candle-dipping, blacksmithing and food preparation. See our newborn lambs, and other farm animals plus pony and wagon rides for an additional fee. The Gullah Lady will tell stories and food concessions will be available.

Sheep Shearing Day, Saturday, April 11 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Do sheep really want a "hair cut?" And what do you do with that dirty wool once it is off the sheep? Learn the answers to these questions as we shear our flock of Gulf Coast sheep. And learn about carding, spinning, dyeing, weaving and sewing to turn raw wool into finished garments. And be sure to meet our spring lambs while you are here.

Andrew Jackson State Park

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

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

Andrew Jackson Birthday Celebration, Saturday, March 14 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Celebrate the birthday of the Seventh President of the United States at his boyhood homeplace. Through living history demonstrations see what the Carolina Backcountry was like in Jackson's time. See traditional crafters at work and hear historians discuss the legacy of Andrew Jackson.

Kings Mountain Historical Museum

100 East Mountain Street, Kings Mountain, NC (704) 739-1019

www.kingsmountainmuseum.org

Famous and Infamous Women of North Carolina, Wednesday, March 4 at 6 pm.

This book talk by Randell Jones is based on his book *Scoundrels, Rogues, and Heroes of the Old North State*. North Carolina has been home to many notable women who have made their marks on history. The author will tell extraordinary and fascinating tales about some of these women, including a child bride, a Confederate soldier, a pirate, and a pioneering parachutist.

Women of the Revolution, Saturday, April 11 at 2 pm.

This book talk by Sharyn McCrumb is based on her book *King's Mountain*. She will tell about the women whose courageous actions helped to turn the tide of the revolution, such as Mary Patton, who provided over five hundred pounds of gunpowder, essential to the victory at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Union County Public Library

316 E. Windsor St., Monroe, NC, www.unionlib.nc.us 704 283 8184

Lady Spy: Wild Rose, Sunday March 15 at 3 pm.

Kelly Hinson returns with a dramatic interpretation of Rose O'Neal Greenhow, a confederate spy and the first female ambassador to Europe from the States (albeit the "Confederate States"). Rose tragically drowns off the coast of North Carolina in September of 1864.

Hugh Torance House and Store

8231 Gilead Road, Huntersville, NC www.hughtorancehouseandstore.com/

House Tours, Sunday, April 19 from 2 to 5 pm.

Regular tours of the Hugh Torance House and Store resume on April 19th and will continue the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month through October. The log portion of the building was constructed as a residence about 1780. In 1805 it was expanded to include a store which operated until 1825. The site eventually became a 3,000 acre plantation worked by over 100 slaves. Extensive family records allow us to interpret nearly a century of mercantile and plantation history.

York County Library

www.yclibrary.org

At War's End: South Carolina Families Face the Aftermath, Saturday, March 14 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, York County Library, Rock Hill, or Saturday, March 28 from 10:30 to 11:30 am, Lake Wylie Public Library, Free.

Historian Colleen Pappas will discuss the effects of the Civil War on women and families in our state, the living conditions at the end of the war, the social, cultural, and political changes brought about by the conflict, mourning customs, and the important events at war's end that took place in Fort Mill, Cross Keys, and Abbeville, SC.

Mount Holly Historical Society

131 South Main, Mount Holly, NC mhhistoricalociety@gmail.com

Gaston County's Contribution During the War of Secession - 1861-1865, Mount Holly Founder's Day Celebration, Sunday, March 15 at 2 to 5 pm.

Presented by Gehrig Wiles, Retired US Navy Officer

Historic Preservation in North Carolina, MHHA Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, April 28 at 7 pm.

Ted Alexander, Western Regional Director for Preservation North Carolina will present the program.

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