

Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents

Promoting Local History through Education and Research

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



September-October, 2014
Volume 20, Number 4

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The National World War II Museum

If you have traveled to New Orleans recently you may know about this relatively new museum. Opening its doors in the year 2000, the museum's mission is to tell the story of the war that changed the world and also transformed America. It began as the D Day museum and has evolved into the official museum responsible for the story of the war that for many of us changed our own personal and family history. The museum is in New Orleans due to the efforts of author Stephen Ambrose, PhD., and its current CEO Gordon H. Mueller, PhD. New Orleans played an essential role in winning the war due to their production of the twenty thousand Higgins boats our military used to launch amphibious landings without the need for harbors.

When I was planning a recent visit to New Orleans to visit a friend she told me how interesting and dynamic this museum is and promised we would go to see it. When I looked at their web site and saw that they are searching for artifacts from the war, I remembered that I had several boxes of stories, records and artifacts my dad had left behind. He was a Navy chaplain on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific and had gone into Tokyo with the Marines before the surrender. When I looked at the contents of the boxes, I realized he had saved many items the museum might be interested in having. I called and found that they did want what I had since they are working on an exhibit telling the story of the chaplains as they complete the final building of this large complex in 2015.

My friend Donna and I met with one of the curators carrying the things I had shipped to her and brought on the plane with me. As we went through the pages of documentation they request when you donate, I realized what a special experience this was. I never imagined that I would be placing part of my family's story in the archives of a national museum. If you have items you would like to donate that might be of interest to this museum, you will find the information you need at www.nationalww2museum.org in the section labeled Give. You may find that part of your family's story is needed in the archives of this museum.

Alice Bostic

Plans to Restore an Old Cannon

Recently Duke Power discovered what appeared to be the remains of a Colonial Era cannon stored in a warehouse at McGuire Nuclear Station near Cowan's Ford on the Catawba River. Their plan was to restore it and put it on display at their visitor's center. They began by contacting the History Community, through the DAR, and asking for local historians to examine it.

On Thursday, June 26, we gathered at the facility to view the artifact. The preliminary consensus is that this is almost certainly a replica of an original British cannon, perhaps constructed during the Bicentennial of the American Revolution, 1975-1983. It was apparently displayed outside for many years as the weather took its toll, rusting the iron barrel and rotting the oak carriage. It was then put in a warehouse and forgotten. The iron barrel can be restored, the other iron parts restored or replaced and the wooden parts restored or replaced. Duke Power is planning this restoration and searching for experts to accomplish it.



The plan is to display the restored cannon, inside the visitor's center, as a centerpiece for discussions of what went on here during the revolution. It will be determined during the restoration if it can be fired on special occasions

This location is historically important. On the morning of February 1, 1781 the Southern British Army under the command of General Cornwallis crossed the Catawba at Cowan's Ford. They were opposed by the Mecklenburg and Rowan Militia under General William Lee Davidson, Commander of the North Carolina Militia. General Davidson was mortally wounded and left on the battlefield where British soldiers stripped him naked. That night, his friends and neighbors removed his body and buried him at Hopewell Church where he lies today.

Jim Williams

From the Chairman

September

The goldenrod is yellow;
The corn is turning brown;
The trees in apple orchards
With fruit are bending down.

Helen Hunt Jackson

October

Asters, deep purple,
A grasshopper's call,
Today it is summer,
Tomorrow is fall.

Edwina Falls

Only four months remain in this year and in my term of office. Elsewhere you will read the nominating committee's slate of officers for 2015-2016. The candidates will be presented during our September meeting and you will vote during the October meeting. I encourage you to vote. I encourage you to become active beyond your current responsibilities. The fall programs for our docents and the issues and programs at the various sites can be read about elsewhere in this issue. It will be my pleasure to welcome you on September 2 after the summer hiatus.

Barbara Jackson

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 welcome.

**Tuesday, September 2
The Charlotte Museum of History – One Year Strong!**

Kay Peninger will give us an update on the progress and focus of The NEW Charlotte Museum of History and the Hezekiah Alexander Home Site. She will update us on the museum's efforts to restore fiscal stability, build a

strong foundation, and to produce excellent programming. Kay will also talk about the focus of the museum's educational programming and its emphasis on the theme of "liberty" and how this ties together our local and national history.

Kay Peninger, a native of North Carolina, came to us from Richmond, Virginia in March of 2013 to serve as the CEO of the Charlotte Museum of History. She brought with her a wealth of experience including twenty years of management in business and nonprofits with a focus on American History. She has immersed herself in the History community, is on the board of the Charlotte Regional History Consortium, and believes that networking and working together will benefit us all.

Tuesday, October 7

Gold! The Carolina Gold Rush and Chevalier Vincent de Rivafinoli.

When little Conrad Reid discovered a 17 pound bright and shining rock in 1799 he started America's first gold rush. For the next half-century all of America's gold came from the mid-South and a large proportion of it from Mecklenburg County. Ann Williams will tell us how panning for gold in creeks evolved into following a vein into the ground, and introduce the Chevalier Vincent de Rivafinoli, the Italian nobleman and mining engineer who did so much to develop the gold mining industry in Charlotte.

With his fine European clothing, his mulatto body servant, his gold-headed cane, extensive library and well-stocked wine cellar, this world famous mining engineer revolutionized gold mining in America. This human comet flashed briefly through our skies and then, after three years, went on to other climes. But his knowledge, skill and innovations improved the gold industry, and led to the establishment the first US branch mint and a number of local fortunes.

Afterwards Jim and Ann Williams will tell us about the movement to establish a new historic district in Charlotte, the Gold District.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the November/December issue of the Dandelion is October 14th. Send articles of interest to Ann and Jim Williams at mhadandelion@mindspring.com Be sure to include all of your holiday events.

Nominating Committee Report

The MHA Docent Nominating Committee will present the following slate of officers at the September Meeting:

Co-Chairmen:	Janet Dyer and Audrey Mellichamp	Treasurer:	Valerie Jones
Vice-Chairmen:	Alice Bostic and Barbara Jackson	Hospitality:	Nell Coward
Secretary:	Linda Beverly	Newsletter:	Ann and Jim Williams

At the October meeting additional nominations may be made from the floor, and the elections will be held. The elected slate will be presented to the MHA Board for approval, and the officers will be installed in January.

New Docent Rosters

Valerie Jones is compiling new docent rosters to be distributed in October. If you have had any change in your contact information since last year, please inform her by September 20th at vvjones@carolina.rr.it.com, or 704-567-0599.

MHA Dinner Meeting

Preserving Old Charlotte – In Pictures and Reality

Monday, September 15, at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Dinner is 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 order form in your MHA Newsletter or contact Jane Johnson at 704 544 0695 or JJCNC@aol.com

Noted Charlotte attorney David Erdman will present images of significant buildings that Charlotte has lost since 1976 and of some historic buildings that have been saved. Bring old photographs or family photo albums to show and share at the event. We will provide display space for your photos.

Mr. Erdman grew up near New Bern. He attended Duke University, was Duke’s first graduate with a degree in Biomedical Engineering, and graduated from Georgetown University Law School. David moved to Charlotte in 1976 and heads the law firm of Erdman and Hockfield, LLP. In 1999, he served on the Charlotte City Council and is currently a member of Mecklenburg’s Historic Landmarks Commission.

Charlotte Regional History Consortium

The Charlotte Regional History Consortium is working to expand its benefits to the history community and looks forward to the coming year. The year has started off with a bang as the organization is working to replace funding for Third Grade field trips once provided by the Arts and Science Council. The CRHC website has been re-designed to be more mobile friendly for smart phones and iPads. They plan to move forward with additional marketing efforts to increase awareness of and attendance at the region’s historic sites, research facilities, and museums. Officers are meeting to discuss additional ways to help the history community through joint grants, marketing, and programs.



The next meeting of the CHRC will be held at the Charlotte Museum of History on September 3 at 10 am. This will be a great chance to pick up CRHC Rack Cards, as well as brochures and information from other member organizations. All historic site employees and volunteers are welcome to meetings, which are held quarterly, and include two annual socials in December and April. The recently elected officers for 2014-15 are:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Kristin Toler (Latta Plantation Board) | President |
| Jason Harpe (Lincoln County Museum of History) | Vice President |
| Deborah Hunter (Historic Rosedale) | Treasurer |
| Kay Peninger (Charlotte Museum of History) | Secretary |
| Bill Helms (Matthews Historical Foundation) | Immediate Past President |

Submitted by Kristin Toller

Cooking and Traveling in England and Scotland

Sweet Lamb Pie, Tort du Moy, Roast Beef and Dripping Pudding, Flummery, Black Caps, Prune Tart, and Pineapple Ice Cream. Doesn’t sound like typical everyday fare in the 18th century North Carolina backcountry, does it? But these receipts are found in 18th century cookery books, many of which were available to the colonists and are the ones used by the Cooking Guild as they practice period cooking techniques at the James K. Polk Historic Site.

Carolyn Dilda and Linda Beverly, two members of the Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley spent three weeks in May and June visiting England and Scotland. The primary reason for their trip was to attend a Georgian Cookery Class by noted food historian, Ivan Day.

In the quaint Lake District village of Shap, England, they discussed the history of British foods and cookery books using Mr. Day's comprehensive library of Georgian recipe books. Then it was on to preparing the dishes listed above using basic skills such as roasting on a spit, making different pie crusts, and using 18th century cooking gadgets. These techniques and basic principles will be valuable as they continue to interpret historic foodways and pass their knowledge on to others.

Before and after their class, Carolyn and Linda visited many historical sites and museums from a recreated 1700's Highland township with turf structures and traditional "blackhouses" to the remarkable Stirling Castle, once home to Mary, Queen of Scots. Kitchens were high on the list to visit and ranged from a small fire pit in the middle of a turf dwelling to the gleaming displays in grand houses. Many of these historic sites had specific programs for children, most of them were hands-on activities, and gave Carolyn and Linda many ideas to bring back with them.



All this, combined with the breath-taking beauty of the glacier-carved mountains and valleys with the scattered remnants of ancient standing stones and castle ruins, resulted in an unforgettable experience.

Linda Beverly

The Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley

The Cooking Guild invites all MHA docents to come to the James K Polk Historic Site in Pineville on September 11. Carolyn and Linda will present the highlights of their trip at 10 am. This will also be the Cooking Guild's 17th anniversary. Please come and enjoy 18th century refreshments as we celebrate. Please RSVP to Linda Beverly at 704-900-6824.

Hart Square Tickets

Note that the admission price has increased this year to \$40.00 each – Still a bargain.

For more than thirty years, Dr. Robert Hart of Hickory has rescued and restored life in the Carolinas in the nineteenth century, recreating an entire village, Hart Square – the largest collection of original historic log buildings in the United States. Each year on the fourth Saturday in October, (October 25th this year), Dr. and Mrs. Hart open this restoration project to the public. Dating from 1782 to 1873, the seventy log structures—chapels, barns, houses, shops, and more—are all furnished, and over 275 volunteer artisans demonstrate period techniques such as flax breaking and hackling, spinning, weaving, herb dying, open-hearth cooking, broom and shoe making, bookbinding, shingle riving, wheelwrighting, tinsmithing, moonshining, and much more. 10% of the proceeds go to the Catawba County Historical Association and 90% go into a fund to carry on the festivals after the Harts can no longer do so themselves.

Advanced tickets are required since this event always sells out early. You can get tickets by calling the Catawba County Museum of History in Newton at 9 am on Tuesday, October 1 or standing in line at that time, but as participants, we can order tickets for you. Make your check out to Jim Williams for \$40.00 per ticket and mail it, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

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

We must receive your check by September 5 to get these tickets. We will receive the tickets by mid-October and mail them on to you.

Carolyn Dilda Elected to ALHFAM Position

Carolyn Dilda, a longtime MHA Docent, has been elected as chair of the Historic Foodways Professional Interest Group of the Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums. ALHFAM is a professional organization of those involved in living historical farms, agricultural museums and museums of history and folklife. It has members across the United States and Canada and around the world.

As Chair of the Historic Foodways committee, she is responsible for promoting networking among cooks at historic sites, independent interpreters and researchers worldwide. The members are encouraged to present programs and workshops at the annual conference and at regional conferences in order to increase the knowledge and skill levels of ALHFAM members.

Carolyn has been a member of the Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley since its inception, has traveled the US and the UK researching vintage food preparation and has attended numerous ALHFAM meetings and workshops. She has presented historic culinary programs locally, at sites across the country and at many ALHFAM events.



Carolyn Dilda with Ivan Day at an 18th Century cooking workshop in England,

Site News

Site Development at Fort Dobbs

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site has announced that phase one of the site's master development plan has been implemented. With funds raised by the non-profit Friends of Fort Dobbs, the site has completed construction on a new bathroom facility which is a marked improvement and integral to the reconstruction of the blockhouse fort. Fundraising is underway for phase two of the project, which will include the chimney and foundation of the fort.

Tar Heel Junior Historians

The Matthew Heritage Museum in association with Crestdale Middle School will be starting a Tar Heel Jr. Historian Group this fall. Youngsters interested in history will have an opportunity to join a group that will explore local and state history and conduct projects either independently or with others. To learn more, call 704-708-4996.

The Care and Handling of Family Papers, Photographs, and Essential Records

The State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) in collaboration with the State Archives of North Carolina has produced a series of tutorials that provide basic information about the care and handling of family papers. The complete series is available on YouTube and selected tutorials are also available in the Preservation section of the State Archives website.

Videos in this series include:

1. Identifying and Protecting Essential Family Records
2. General Paper Preservation Tips
3. Caring for and Sharing Family and Personal Papers
4. The Care and Preservation of Family Photographs
5. Managing and Preserving Digital Images

Site Development at President James K. Polk State Historic Site.

The visitor center will be closed to the public from September 2 to October 31 for repairs and renovation. Although the museum area will have limited visitor access, there will be daily tours of the historic cabins and some programming during this time. The Visitor Center will have a Grand-Reopening Celebration on November 15th. See details in the History Calendar.

North Branch of the Mecklenburg Historical Association Being Formed

A new organization, the North Branch MHA, is in the process of formation. The goal of this group is to preserve the history of North Mecklenburg County through programs and projects of particular interest to that part of the county and to function as the Historical Society for the Town of Cornelius. It will coordinate with existing history organizations in Davidson, Huntersville and north Mecklenburg County. Programs will be presented monthly September thru May, and the organization will share in the long-standing North Meck Christmas Parade and Mt. Zion Homecoming.

The public is invited to the first meeting of the North Branch MHA on Wednesday, September 9 from 7 to 8:30 pm at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, 19600 Zion Ave, off Old Statesville Road in Cornelius, Room 209 (use cemetery side entrance ramp). Our speaker will be Dr. Jan Blodgett of Davidson College who will discuss her project to identify what was covered by Lake Norman and is now "Under the Lake."

We need volunteers to help guide this new organization. Key areas of need are membership, refreshments, archives and special projects. If you are interested in volunteering, plan to stay after the meeting or contact Sarah Sue Hardinger at 704-906-6656 or sarahsuenc@gmail.com.

Latta Introduces New Executive Director

Historic Latta Plantation has a new Executive Director effective July 1, 2014. David Clay was Latta's former Education Coordinator and is excited about his new role with the site. Born and raised in Union County, David attended college at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in History. David first became involved with Latta while he was still a student and volunteered as an intern. He has a passion for sharing history with others and looks forward to implementing new ideas for site growth and interpretation. You can reach David at 704-875-2312, ext. 303 or dclay@lattaplantation.org

Matthew Waisner, the former Historic Interpretation Specialist, is now the Site Director and coordinates all special events and reenactments at the site. Latta has also welcomed Heather Lineberger to the staff. She serves two roles as both the Marketing and Education Director.

A Revolutionary Weekend

Saturday through Tuesday, October 4 through 7, at Three Historic Sites.
See <http://rev-war-weekend.com/> for details.

Walnut Grove Plantation, near Roebuck, SC

Friday, October 3 from 7 to 9 pm there will be Lantern Tours of the Plantation.

Saturday, October 4 from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, October 5 from 10 am to 3 pm there will be a military encampment with battle reenactments at noon and 2:30 pm on Saturday and at 2:30 pm on Sunday.

Both days there will be a living history festival with colonial crafts and trades such as blacksmith, cooper, broom and basket makers, surveyor, gunsmith, woodworker, weaver and soap maker. Children can make candles, play with toys and games, and write with quill and ink. Bring a picnic; food vendors will be available.

Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Saturday, October 4, from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday, October 5 from 9 am to 3 pm see demonstrations of musket and rifle firing, children's militia drills, trades and crafts, 18th-century medicine, cooking, and fife and drum.

Also on Saturday, Guided Lantern Tours along the Battlefield Trail start at 7pm. Living history interpreters will tell about the night after the battle using actual accounts from participants of the battle. The last tour leaves at 8 pm. Reservations required at 864-936-7921. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a flashlight.

Cowpens National Battlefield

Saturday, October 4:

10:30am – 11:00am - Non-firing cannon demonstration

11:30am – 12:00pm - Living Historians Common Knowledge will discuss colonial life from the female perspective, with a focus on medicine and textiles

12:30pm – 1:30pm - Ranger guided Battlefield Tour

2:30pm – 3:00pm - Southern Campaign talk

3:30pm – 4:00pm - Living Historian

Sunday, October 5:

10:30am – 11:00am - Non-firing cannon demonstration

12:30pm – 1:30pm - Ranger led guided Battlefield Tour

2:30pm – 3:30pm - Southern Campaign talk

3:30pm – 4:30pm - Ken Johnston as “Benedict Arnold”

Monday, October 6:

6:00pm – 7:30pm - The Overmountain Victory Trail Association presents the drama: “A Night before Kings Mountain.” Hear the story of the Overmountain Men and their journey from the colonial frontier to the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Tuesday, October 7, the Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain

9 am to 5 pm - Honor those who fell in the Battle of Kings Mountain. A wreath laying ceremony at the US Monument will be held at 11 am. The Overmountain Victory Trail Marchers will arrive at 3:00 pm followed by a keynote address by author John Buchannan.

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>

Spirits of Rosedale, Fridays and Saturday, October 24, 25 and 31 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Join us for Halloween as the Spirits of Rosedale come back to life. Discover why, even today, they remain in this 200 year-old plantation. Let the spirits transport you through the history of this mysterious place. Meet spirits bound by tragic epidemics, insanity, greed, and hope for freedom on the Underground Railroad. Don't linger too long with the spirits.... they might put the Hoodoo on you! Appropriate for ages six and up.

The Feast of the Hunter's Moon, Monday, October 27 at 6 pm.

This is a period farm to table five course gourmet dinner. It is our primary fund raiser to support preservation and education for the Historic Rosedale Plantation Foundation. The Feast of the Hunter's Moon Antebellum Dinner is phenomenal; there really isn't anything like it in the Southeast. Tickets are \$150 each. The meal will be prepared by celebrity chefs coordinated by Executive Chef Robert Marilla from CPCC. Diners will enjoy open bar cocktails in the house and garden, butlered hors d'oeuvres and a candle-lit dinner under a tent on our expansive lawn. Carefully selected wines will be paired with each course.

Latta Plantation

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

Revolutionary War Reenactment: The Battle of Charlotte Saturday and Sunday, August 30-31 from 10 am to 4 pm.

In September of 1780 General Lord Cornwallis and the southern British army entered Charlotte and found a Hornets Nest. Come out to learn about this struggle – what British and Patriot Soldiers wore, what gear they used and what their lives were like with a battle each day at 2 p.m., and talk with Col. and Mrs. Polk. The Latta House will be open throughout the weekend with clothed interpreters and cooking in the kitchen. There will be time period vendors to shop with, a food vendor, and The Olde Mecklenburg Brewery.

Hugh Torrance House and Store

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

The House and Store is open for tours on September 7 and 21 and October 5 and 19 from 2 to 5 pm each day. It will be closed over the winter and regular tours will resume in April.

The Charlotte Museum of History

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

Backcountry Days, Saturday, September 6, from 1 to 5 pm, Free

Join us for a free community-wide celebration of the Piedmont Backcountry, featuring free ice cream and music by the Charlotte Folk Society, demonstrations of pottery, blacksmithing, basket weaving, rifle and cartridge making, along with children's crafts and games. Free tours of Hezekiah Alexander Home Site and Museum.

An English Tea, Sunday September 28 at 4 to 5:30 pm.

Join us for a delightful and informative afternoon tea that explores the tea customs and food of England.

The Haunted Home Site, Friday, October 24 at 7 pm.

Join us for ghouls, goblins and ghost stories.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

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

www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

The Visitor Center will be Closed from September 2 to October 31 but the Site will be Open.

The visitor center will be closed due to the repairs and renovation going on. The museum area will have limited visitor access but there will be daily tours of the historic cabins and some special programming. The Visitor Center will have a Grand-Reopening Celebration on November 15th.

Sarah Polk: A Wife, A First Lady, Saturday, September 6 at 11 am to 12:30 pm. Due to the renovation project this event will be held at The Hut, 413 Johnston Drive, Pineville. Free.

Celebrate the 211th birthday of First Lady Sarah Polk. Catherine Halford, a UNCC graduate student, will explore the intellectual and devoted First Lady. Mrs. Polk herself will be in attendance to meet and talk with you.

Matters of Grave Importance, Saturday, October 11 at 10 am to noon. Due to the renovation project, meet in the museum parking lot and walk the short distance to the family cemetery. Free

Glimpse into the past, present, and future of local cemetery history. Jason Harpe, a historic cemetery specialist, will guide visitors through a first-hand look at the Polk family cemetery and the importance behind the preservation of this historic landmark.

Grand Reopening Celebration, Saturday, November 15 from 10 am to 4 pm. Free

Polk Revisits Pineville! Come and celebrate with us as we reveal our newly renovated visitor center to the public. Bring the whole family to take part in an array of fun activities. Shuck corn, dance a folksy jig and snap pictures with none other than President Polk himself. You won't want to miss out on this grand celebration.

Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley Demonstrations, September through May on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 10 am to 2 pm, Free

The Cooking Guild will be in the kitchen house for cooking demonstrations. Observe as the ladies prepare elaborate meals over the open hearth.

Matthews Heritage Museum

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

Through the Lens: A Century of Cameras. Starting Thursday, September 4, this exhibit will be open Thursdays through Saturdays from 10 am to 4:30 pm.

This collection of Kodak cameras dates from the 1890s to the 1990s and shows a variety of styles as new technologies were developed. From "folding pocket cameras" to Brownies, to instamatic cameras, Kodak provided many families with their first affordable camera. Today the film camera has nearly disappeared.

A Demonstration of Early Baseball, Saturday, October 18, at 1 pm, MARA ball park, Free.

The museum will present a demonstration game of 19th century baseball for the education of local citizens and visitors to the area. Using volunteers to play the game, we will conduct a practice session on September 6th at noon at the Mara fields and then put on the demonstration game using volunteers from the Museum and MARA on Saturday October 18 at the MARA ball park. To join in the fun call 704-708-4996 and leave a message. .

Schiele Museum

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

Early American Cornhusking, Sunday, September 28 from 1 to 5 pm.

At harvest time, or in gathering corn, it was a practice for every man to invite all neighbors, male and female, to assist in reaping, or husking the corn... James Potter Collins, 1783

Visit the backcountry farm to learn about corn, a useful, nourishing crop for early settlers. Grind corn by hand. See traditional dishes prepared at the hearth. Join in the celebration of an early American corn husking.

Frontier Fishing, Sunday, October 19 from 1 to 5 pm.

Discover the world of the frontier fisherman.... a time of quiet streams and free-flowing rivers where fishing occurred for sustenance as well as sport. Displays of handcrafted fishing gear, nets & traps, and artful angling by the pond highlight the event. Watch experienced interpreters "plank a fish" and prepare 18th century fish dishes.

Gaston County Museum

131 West Main Street Dallas, NC. (704)922-7681, #2 www.gastoncountymuseum.org

Loray Mill: Past, Present, & Future, Tuesday, September 16 at 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Historic Loray Mill, the largest textile mill under one roof in the South, was the heart of Gaston County's textile industry. From 1900 to 1993 it employed thousands of workers and provided homes in the mill village around the factory. A massive renovation project is now taking place. William R. Hughes, developer for the project, will speak about this historic mill and how the building will be utilized for generations to come. Reservations required. Contact Jason Luker at 704-922-7681 ex 105 or Jason.Luker@gastongov.com

Halloween on the Square, Friday, October 31 from 6 to 9 pm, Free.

The Town of Dallas will host its annual Halloween on the Square. Children of all ages can walk along the historic square and trick or treat from community organizations. The Gaston County Museum will have games popular during the 1800s.

Historic Brattonsville

1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells, SC, 803 684 2327
<http://www.chmuseums.org/brattonsville>

By the Sweat of Our Brows, Saturday, September 13 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Experience the African-American journey centering on the lives of enslaved Africans who lived in the Brattonsville Community in the 1800's.

Charlotte Folk Society

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte
www.folksociety.org

Celebrate the 80th Birthday of The WBT Briarhoppers on Saturday, August 30th, in McGlohon Theatre.

When the Briarhoppers call out, "Do y'all know what hit is?" you'll want to answer, "Hit's Briarhopper time!"

Ice Cream Social and Old-Time Acoustic Music Jam, Saturday, September 6 from 1 to 5 pm, Free.

This will be held on the grounds of the Charlotte Museum of History. See page 9 for more information.

The Orpheus Supertones in Concert, Friday, September 19 at 7:30 pm at the Levine Museum of the New South.

One of the country's best old-time stringbands makes a rare Charlotte stop. Tickets are \$20. The Charlotte Folk Society and Levine Museum of the New South are co-sponsors of this concert.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

Living History Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, September 13-14 from 10 am to 4 pm, Free

Historic interpreters will present musket and cannon firing demonstrations as well as on-going interpretation of French and Indian War camp life.

Kings Mountain National Military Park

SC Hwy 216. I-85, Exit 2 in North Carolina. Follow the signs. 864-936-7921

<http://www.nps.gov/kimo>

A Revolutionary Weekend, Saturday through Tuesday, October 4 through 7, at Three Historic Sites.

See details on page 8 or <http://rev-war-weekend.com>

Cowpens National Battlefield

I-85 South Carolina Exit 83, follow signs, 864-461-2828

www.nps.gov/cowp

A Revolutionary Weekend, Saturday through Tuesday, October 4 through 7, at Three Historic Sites.

See details on page 8 or <http://rev-war-weekend.com>

Kings Mountain Historical Museum

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

www.kingsmountainmuseum.org

Tracks Through Time Reverse Raffle & Auctions Fund Raiser, Saturday, September 13 at 5:30 pm.

Support Museum exhibits and programs. Each \$100 raffle ticket provides dinner for two guests; the grand prize winner will receive \$10,000 and at least every fifth ticket drawn will win a door prize. You do not have to be present to win. There will be live & silent auctions of hand-crafted jewelry, signed sports memorabilia and delicious home-baked cakes. The event will be held at the H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Life and Conference Center.

Backcountry Fury: A Sixteen-Year-Old Patriot in the Revolutionary War, Living History Presentation by Dr. Tony Zeiss, Saturday, October 11 at Noon, Free.

Dr. Tony Zeiss, historian, author, and president of CPCC, will appear as Thomas Young, the main character of his book *Backcountry Fury: A Sixteen-Year-Old Patriot in the Revolutionary War*. Thomas will recount his memories of going off to war in 1780 to avenge his brother's death at the hands of the Tories, and to liberate South Carolina's backcountry. Thomas fought barefoot at Kings Mountain, led militia cavalry into battle at the Cowpens and was held prisoner and escaped, all before his 18th birthday. This thrilling true story will entertain and inform audiences of all ages. Dr. Zeiss will be available afterwards to sign copies of *Backcountry Fury*, available for purchase.

“Say Ahh!” The Incredible Medical History of Kings Mountain, Exhibit on display now through October 25, Open Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 4 pm, Free.

From doctors and dentists, to pharmacies and folk remedies, this exhibit presents an historical overview of all things related to health and well-being in the Kings Mountain region. The display highlights the evolution of science and technology in medicine over the past three centuries.

Duke Mansion

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte, 704 714 4448

<http://www.dukemansion.com>

Our Vanishing Americana - A North Carolina Portrait, Sunday, October 19 at 3 pm, Free.

In today's sprawling Charlotte region, are there still places to connect with an earlier rural South? Author/photographer Mike Lassiter has tracked down a book full. He'll share discoveries from his volume *Vanishing Americana: A North Carolina Portrait*, and the PBS documentary he produced which chronicled his journey.

Museum of the Waxhaws

8215 Waxhaw Hwy., Waxhaw, N. C. 704-843-1832, <http://museumofthewaxhaws.org>

War of 1812 and the Great Pirate Invasion, Saturday, September 20 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Come hear about the War of 1812 from Andrew Jackson himself and meet the Pirates that assisted him in the Battle of New Orleans. Learn about "The Star Spangled Banner" and enjoy artifacts of the period.

Fort Mill History Museum

310 North White Street, 803 802 3646, www.fortmillhistorymuseum.org

Book Signing, Saturday, September 13 at 11 am to 12:30

Dr. Richard J. Chacon, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Winthrop University, and Michael C. Scoggins, Historian for the Culture & Heritage Museums and Research Director of The Southern Revolutionary War Institute, will discuss their recent book about the impact of the Great Awakening on colonial America's Southern Backcountry. The lecture will highlight the role that religion played in the American Revolutionary War and the impact of religion in other rebellions around the world. Books will be available for purchase.

The Wall that Heals – The Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial & Museum, Thursday through Sunday, October 16-19, Free.

Open to the public all day and night at Veterans Park, White Street in Fort Mill. This traveling display includes a mobile museum of photos, letters, and memorabilia left at the Memorial Wall. These exhibits tell the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall and the era surrounding the conflict.

Spencer Doll and Toy Museum

108 Fourth St., Spencer, NC, 704 762 9359, www.spencerdollandtoymuseum.com

Shirley Temple – Lecture and Book Signing, Saturday, September 13 at 2 to 3 pm. Free.

Author and UNC-Chapel Hill Professor John Kasson will discuss his new book about Shirley Temple, *The Little Girl Who Fought the Great Depression*. Shirley Temple was America's sweetheart in the early 1930's and she played a significant role during a dark time in our history. The museum's collection of Shirley Temple dolls and collectibles will be on display.

Olde Huntersville Historic Society

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Olde-Huntersville-Heritage-Society/500442970021244>

The Olde Huntersville Historic Society Meeting, Wednesday, September 3 at 7 pm.

We will meet at Historic Rural Hill to hear Jeff Fissel, Executive Director at Rural Hill, who will talk about the current usage of the property, history of this site and of the Davidson family. Guests are welcome.

Old Salem

<http://www.oldsalem.org>

Homowo Harvest Food Tasting, Sunday, September 21 from 1 to 3:30 pm.

This Sunday Social features a tasting of foods from plants native to Africa and foods traditionally associated with the African American cuisine.

Pigs & Pippins, Harvest Day at Old Salem, Saturday, October 18, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Celebrate the fall with hands-on activities, puppet shows and historic demonstrations.

Legends and Lanterns Halloween Tours, Saturday, October 25 and Thursday, October 30 from 6 to 9 pm each evening.

Tour Salem's nighttime streets, visit haunted stops and hear local ghost tales.

Trick or Treat in Old Salem, Sunday, October 26 from 6 to 7:30 pm, Free.

Trick-or-treating throughout the historic district for children who should be accompanied by a parent or adult. South Main Street from Salem Square to Frank L. Horton Museum Center.

MHA Docents
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