

Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents

Promoting Local History through Education and Research

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



March, April 2018
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Look Inside This Issue

- Voices from the Past a Great Success.
- MHA Docent Programs on Centre Church and on UNCC Special Collections.
- MHA Dinner Meeting on Winston Churchill
- The Reverend and Mrs. Robert Hall Morrisons are Coming to Town
- The Cooking Guild on TV
- Large-Scale Reenactment of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse – See Calendar.
- History News of Lectures on
 - Roman Sundials
 - The Original “Lost Colony
 - Longrifles
 - Pre-historic Mammals
 - “Made in Fort Mill”

Return to Voices From The Past

Saturday, April 14th, from 1 to 4 pm.



Last year the MHA Docents introduced a new program to Charlotte in the form of a graveyard tour called Voices From The Past. Lynn Mintzer, one of our number, had attended similar events elsewhere, and brought the idea to the docent board. The board decided to host the event, and Lynn agreed to be its chairman. On April 1st we invited the public to Settlers’ and Elmwood/Pinewood cemeteries. There they could visit about fifty appropriately garbed portrayers each standing by a grave and assuming the persona of the grave’s occupant. It was an enormous success, and definitely worth repeating.

This year marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the city of Charlotte, and all of the “residents” of our cemeteries were part of that history. At Settlers’ you will find Thomas Polk, the driving force behind Charlotte’s founding in 1768; he is not shy about taking credit for the deed. Dr. Ephraim Brevard and General George Graham were also part of Charlotte’s early history and all three of them were heroes of the American Revolution. At Elmwood you’ll find Dr. Annie Alexander, the South’s first licensed female physician. She may be too modest to say that she, the only woman of a hundred applicants at the licensing exam, scored the highest. And that was just the first of her great accomplishments. Don’t miss Randolph Scott, the movie star. Although he’s been gone for thirty years, his is Elmwood’s most visited gravesite. Perhaps Mr. Harry, a funeral director at the time, will tell you about Scott’s embalming. This year there will again be about fifty portrayers representing a broad swath of the past 250 years. Some will be repeating last year’s presentation – our biggest complaint was there was not time enough to see everyone; consider this a second chance – and there will be some new characters you haven’t met before.

Lynn Mintzer, the docent who started it all, has agreed to be chairman again. Last year she devoted many hours to the project bringing in the Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society, Charlotte's Center City Partners, Bill Bibby, director of Charlotte's cemeteries, and obtaining a number of corporate sponsors. She did a fabulous job, and using many of those same resources we are sure to have another stellar event.

There will be free parking along some of the wider lanes inside Elmwood Cemetery; all automobile traffic must enter through the Cedar Street entrance. The gates will open at 11:30 am. The



main entrance on 6th Street will be open to foot traffic only. There are metered parking spaces on several of the streets near Settlers': they are free all day on Saturdays. Queen City Tours is providing a free golf cart shuttle service between Elmwood/Pinewood and Settlers', and B-Cycle is providing bikes, also free, that can be ridden between the cemeteries and within Elmwood/Pinewood. Cold bottled water will be available at the information tables.

Last year we had not expected so many visitors, about 800 we believe. In spite of that the spacious cemeteries were not crowded. This year we'll be better prepared by printing many more programs, and having more volunteer guides including a group from Charlotte's Children's Theater. Last year Mother Nature was more than kind and sent us an unusually warm and sunny day for early April. Nevertheless we decided to schedule a rain date on Sunday, April 15th.

So do put April 14th on your calendar, and pass the word to your acquaintances about the event. Perhaps at Elmwood you'll meet the Victorian funeral directors; they can tell you of a bizarre way to absolve the deceased of their sins. And Gussie Berryhill is sure to have all the gossip of our more recent past. Don't miss the corner of Settlers' that was reserved for "our servants", a euphemism for slaves. There you will find Aggie and Cherry, slaves who cared for white children when their mothers died, in addition to raising their own flocks. Don't be surprised if they gossip a bit about the white folks. And the best has been saved for last; At Pinewood, originally called the "colored" cemetery hear the story about Fred Alexander, a black city councilman and mayor pro tem, who with great effort and perseverance succeeded in having the fence torn down between Elmwood and Pinewood, and now we can all rest together in God's Acres.

From the Chairman

Since I last wrote you via the Dandelion we have opened the Christmas season with our famous Christmas Tea – many "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year" greetings have been exchanged – and here we are in February, 2018, almost tax time and Lent begins next week!

Your Executive Board held our Annual Retreat on January 15 and 16. This was two days of intense concentration reviewing Docent activities of 2017 and looking ahead to projects and budgets for 2018. Reports from our various committees were accepted and reviewed reminding us that 2017 was a great year—thanks to the hard work of MHA Docents. Retreat also is our preparation to lead your organization into a new year. And, yes, we planned some fun, too. You'll hear all about it at our General Meetings, first Tuesday of each month—but check your Dandelion for the latest information as there may be changes for travel, etc.

One of the suggestions to Board members was to make our Docent organization more active and attractive to encourage new members. There were several ideas put forward but I would love to hear from YOU. I will give you some of our ideas, give me your thoughts, too, please. We can never have too many 'worker bees'.

Hoping to see you soon.

Rachel

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May, June, July, August Dandelion is **Tuesday, April 10**. Send articles to Jim and Ann Williams at mhadandelion@mindspring.com

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. Free, visitors are always welcome.

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018
Centre Presbyterian Church**

Centre Church, founded in 1765, was one of our area's "Seven Sisters" Presbyterian Churches. It is in Iredell County just a few miles north of Davidson. Although Centre was never in Mecklenburg County, there are numerous family connections between the communities around Centre, Hopewell and the village of Charlotte. The present sanctuary was built in 1854, replacing an earlier log building. We'll hear some of Centre's history, especially that pertaining to its burying ground where the graves go back to 1765. The desire for independence was as avid in Iredell as it was in Mecklenburg. There are 33 patriot soldiers buried at Centre, and June Robb will tell us some of their stories.

June Robb is English-born; she and her husband Ian live in Davidson and worship at Centre Church. She was a legal secretary to Hall Morrison "Morry" Johnston, and asked him if he was related to Robert Hall Morrison, founder of Davidson College. He replied that he thought so but didn't know exactly how, and asked her to research it for him. She did, and found her calling. Since then she has done extensive research for Centre Church, especially for its 250th anniversary in 2015 in which they hosted a graveyard tour similar to our "Voices From The Past". June will include a power point presentation featuring the church and its cemetery.



**Tuesday, April 3, 2018
Fifty Years of Special Collections at UNC Charlotte**

Robin Brabham was the founding head of the Special Collections Department of UNCC's J. Murrey Atkins Library – no small task. Robin came to UNCC in 1969. In 1973, thanks in a large part to the generosity of local businessman and philanthropist Harry Dalton, he became the first head of Special Collections. At first the emphasis was on collecting rare books, especially first editions in American and English literature. As time passed more attention was given to collecting manuscripts and other materials that document the history and culture of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Robin earned his master's degree in librarianship at Emory University, and his master's in history from UNC Chapel Hill. He retired in 2010, and is currently working on a bibliography of 19th century printing and publishing in Mecklenburg County. He says he "continues to assist and, sometimes pester, Special Collections, and to find materials to add to the collections." Anyone who has researched any part of our regional history understands and appreciates the monumental collection that Robin has spawned. We are fortunate indeed to have such a complete and well organized archive so close to hand.

MHA Dinner Meeting

Trinity Presbyterian Church. Dinner is at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:15. Those not having dinner may enjoy the program at no charge. To make a reservation for dinner use the order form in your MHA Newsletter or contact Barbara Taylor, 1016 Goshen Place, Charlotte, NC 28211, btaylor797@aol.com or 980-335-0326.

Monday, March 19, 2018
The Ties that Bind

Our speaker is Craig Horn who will talk on "The Ties that Bind" and provide insight into how we can continue the legacy of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Winston Churchill. Our founding documents are not only the foundation of this great nation, but are also guideposts to direct our future. Horn will delve into the character and foresight of these three great leaders in three different centuries that are tied together.

Craig Horn is a former Russian linguist with the US Air Force Security Service, and a retired business man. He is in his fourth term in the NC General Assembly as a representative from Union county. He is president of the Churchill Society of North Carolina. He and Celia Sandys, Churchill's granddaughter, are co-chairmen of the Board of Advisors of the International Churchill Society and the Churchill Centre.

The Reverend and Mrs. Robert Hall Morrison are Coming to Town

If you were so unfortunate as to have missed the appearance of the Reverend Doctor Robert Hall Morrison last year at Machpelah Church in Lincoln County and at the September MHA Docent meeting, here is another chance. And this time he is being accompanied by his wife, Mary Graham Morrison.

Dr. Morrison was a leading Presbyterian minister in North Carolina, serving at Fayetteville and then in Charlotte at Sugar Creek Church and as founder of Charlotte First Presbyterian. In 1837 he founded Davidson College and he did it all. He convinced the Presbytery to support it, raised the money, chose the land and supervised the construction, curriculum and enrolment. Then he served as the first President and one of the first two professors. After a personal tragedy he retired from the College to become a wealthy planter in Lincoln County and, for the rest of his life, pastor of the oldest church in the county, Unity Presbyterian, and as founding pastor of Machpelah and Castanea Churches.

At these three events you will be able to meet and talk with Dr. Morrison and his wife Mary, the daughter of General Joseph Graham. They will be interpreted and presented by Jim and Ann Williams, who will speak and answer questions about their lives and accomplishments.

The appearance at the Davidson Historical Society will be on Sunday, March 11 at 4 pm at the Davidson College Alumni House, 420 N. Main Street in Davidson.

The appearance in Lincoln County will be on Saturday, April 21 at 2 pm at Machpelah Church. This church was founded by Rev. Morrison in 1848 and is rarely open to the public. It is located off the road from Beatties Ford to Lincolnton, Route US 73, at Tucker's Grove Church Road.

The appearance at the at the Matthews Historical Foundation will be on Tuesday, April 24 at 6 pm at the Matthews Woman's Club, 208 South Trade Street, Matthews.

MHA North Branch Meeting

BoatYard Eats , Tuesday, April 10, at 7 pm, 18418 Statesville Rd., Cornelius.

David Stockwell will give a private tour of his soon-to-opened entertainment and food truck venue. The site is the former Anchorage Marina, a landmark in Cornelius since the opening of Lake Norman. The site has been updated while maintaining its original character and there will be space devoting to local historical artifacts.



MHA Dues

The time has come to pay your Mecklenburg Historical Association Dues for 2018; 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 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 or more as appropriate

General _____ Senior _____
MHA Docent _____ North Branch MHA _____
Patron _____ Life _____

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.

History News

Roman Portable Sundials: The Empire in Your Hand, Lecture by Richard Talbert, Tuesday, March 20 at 7:30 pm, 900 Room, Alvarez College Union, Davidson College, Free and Open to the Public.

In this Archaeological Institute of America meeting Dr Talbert, William Rand Kenan, Jr. Professor of History at UNC Chapel Hill, will discuss his work in analyzing these portable Roman sundials. In a time before maps it is difficult for us to know how the early Romans visualized their vast empire. These instruments provided for them a form of early maps.

These tiny bronze instruments have adjustable rings which allow the owner to move from one latitude to another. The dials are marked with as many as three dozen cities or regions chosen by the maker or owner, revealing how they visualized the world. This is a lecture full of surprises which reveals the Romans' sense of space, time and identity.

The Original "Lost Colony," Thursday, March 8, at 6:30 to 7:30 pm, Lincoln Cultural Center (Downtown Lincolnton), Free.

The first colonial settlement in North Carolina was not the "Lost Colony," but the Spanish Fort San Juan, built in 1567 and located at what is now called the Berry Site near Morganton. Archaeologists have been studying the Berry site since 1986 and have identified the remains of Fort San Juan and the Native American settlement of Joara. Recently, the Exploring Joara Foundation has mounted a new exhibit about the Berry site at the History Museum of Burke County in Morganton.

Dr. David Moore, archaeologist at Warren Wilson College and the Senior Archaeologist for the Exploring Joara Foundation, will talk about the interesting Native American and Spanish artifacts that help to tell the fascinating story of this first colonial venture into the interior of the United States.

The Longrifle Makers of the Salem School: Discovery – Identification – Documentation, Saturday March 10 from 10 am to 2 pm, Old Salem Visitor Center, Winston-Salem, Lecture at 10 am, Free.

Michael Briggs and Blake Stevenson will exhibit Salem School Longrifles and identify, document and photograph longrifles, artifacts and documents related to rifle making in that area which are brought in that day. Names related to longrifle making in Forsyth County include Betz, Beck, Blum, Brandel, Butner, Christ, Dettmar, Folz, Koffler, Leinbach, Lesh, Loesch, Pfaff, Reavis, Rude, Schaub and Vogler. Artifact related to this subject may be included in an upcoming book on the subject. For information contact Michael Briggs at 336-340-6707.

Carolina Piedmont through Time Seminar Series, Tuesday, March 20 at 6 to 8 pm, Registration Required, Museum of York County, Rock Hill, SC.

Discover the geologic origins of the Carolina Piedmont six hundred million years ago. Dr. Steve Fields, Ph.D., the York County museum's curator of natural history will present a lecture on the Rise and Reign of the Mammals. Fossils of giant armadillos, mastodons and lions tell the story of the time when the Eastern U.S. was like East Africa today.

Made in Fort Mill, Landmark Conference 2018, Thursday through Saturday, April 5-7.

The Confederation of South Carolina Local Historical Societies presents this conference for history enthusiasts and professionals to learn about South Carolina history with a special focus on Fort Mill. There will be a reception Thursday evening. Friday's sessions will cover topics including Carolina Fish Camps, World War I Ace Elliott White Springs, the American Revolution, Catawba Towns, and Scotch-Irish Influence on Country Music.

Saturday tours will include Anne Springs Close Greenway, Confederate Park, Historic Main Street, John M. White House, and Springfield Plantation. For details and registration go to <http://www.csclhs.org/landmark-conference.html>

Armistice Bell Ringing: Your Assistance Requested.

The NC Federation of Historical Societies has asked the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Library for help. They want to identify all of the churches in our area that have a working set

of bells or recorded bells. The NC Department of Cultural Resources is working to organize a ringing of the bells in communities across the state at 11 am on November 11, 2018. This is to commemorate the signing of the Armistice ending the First World War on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The goal is for church and government agencies' bells to ring in all 100 counties in North Carolina. If you can help identify these churches, please contact Shelia Bumgarner at sbumgarner@cmlibrary.org or call her at 704-416-0150.

News from the Cooking Guild.

The Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley was featured on a live podcast as a part of one of the North Carolina Museum of History's "LIVE" streaming events. These events bring the museum and history into school classrooms across the state. This was the first of these the Museum of History did "on location". It took place at the James K. Polk State Historic Site on January 24 and was viewed live by more than 500 students in 17 counties.

The live podcast "Cooking for the (future) President: James K. Polk State Historic Site" explored historic foodways, what could be learned from the foods people ate in the past and the ways meals were prepared. Cooking Guild members Carolyn Dilda and Sharon Van Kuren demonstrated cooking on the open hearth with seasonal foods and answered questions from teachers and students. The Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley was honored to be considered to share their skills, techniques, and research with school groups across the state. The podcast can be viewed on You Tube at <https://www.youtube.com> Search for NCMOH Live! and click on the segment "Cooking for the (Future) President. Once the program starts, move forward about 5½ minutes to find the Cooking Guild segment. The entire program goes for about 1 hour.

Site News

Charlotte's Grandest Home: A Self-Guided Tour of The Duke Mansion.

Built in 1915 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, The Duke Mansion has been home and host to prominent leaders throughout the 20th century. It is now operating as a nonprofit with all proceeds going to preserve and protect this historical landmark. Whether you enjoy Charlotte history, celebrate colonial revival architecture, appreciate strolling through 4½ acres of beautiful gardens, or want to visit The Duke Mansion Legacy of Leadership historical exhibit on the second floor, we invite you to come enjoy this refreshed and renewed one hundred and one years old historic inn and meeting place. To arrange a free tour call 704-714-4400. The Duke Mansion | 400 Hermitage Road | Charlotte, NC | 28207 | www.dukemansion.org

Now is the Time to Register Your Children for Summer Camp.

Historic Latta Plantation Summer Camps are for ages Four to Twelve. Camps are available from May to August and include: Civil War, Revolutionary War, Pioneer Girls, Historic Encounters, Mini-Farm and Junior-Farm Camps. Registration is now open online at www.lattaplantation.org

From Over Here to Over There: World War I in the Southwest Piedmont, Exhibit Open now through May 12, Kings Mountain Historical Museum, Free.

At this traveling exhibit from the Gaston County Museum, discover how Cleveland and Gaston Counties did their bit when the United States joined the Great War in 1917. Visitors will be able to visualize the timeline of the war, see where this region fit in the wider conflict, discover the specific regiments from this area and the combat local men were engaged in. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm.

Made by Hand, a New Exhibit Open February 15 at the Matthews Heritage Museum.

This is an exhibit of items made by our mothers and grandmothers featuring tatting, crocheting, embroidery and lace making plus cut and drawn work. The art of the needle is a skill that is seldom practiced today but in early centuries women used needlework to make the things they needed for ordinary life.

Girls learned the practical craft of making and repairing the clothes they needed. Many of them learned other stitches to make their work more beautiful. In the 19th century girls made samplers to impress future husbands with their needlework skills. Generally, these were done with counted cross-stitch, but they could also use embroidery stitches.

The History Calendar

Admission charged at all events unless otherwise noted.

Many of these events sell out so it is best to register at the web sites.

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>

Fashionista's of The 19th Century: Exhibit Closes Sunday, March 11.

In the 1800s it was considered erotic for women to show the back of their necks and it was seldom appropriate to show their ankles. This temporary exhibit can be toured Thursday through Sunday at 3 pm each day. You'll learn how styles changed over time, when the looks we think of for Southern Belles were actually popular, and how they held those massive dresses up. Many beautiful outfits are on display for this event only.

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 24, Advanced Reservations Required and Sells out Fast.

Explore our enchanting gardens and wander through our ancient boxwood as you and your child hunt for Easter eggs left by the Easter Bunny himself. The four egg hunts start at 10 am, 11 am, Noon and 1 pm. Eggs are filled with fun treats and educational facts about the plantation. Each participant will also leave with a small take-away gift, and as part of Rosedale's silver anniversary as a museum there will be a special surprise at each hunt. Children of all ages are welcome and don't forget your Easter Baskets.

Oyster-Roast, Sunday, March 25 from 2 to 5 pm, Pre-Paid Reservations Required.

Oysters will be roasted outside in the true Southern coastal tradition. There will be Oyster cocktail, low country boil, sides, & hot dogs. Catering by The Comet Grill, Craft beer by Birdsong Brewing, garden tours by Larry Mellichamp, PhD and live music.

Historic Latta Plantation

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

Latta Celtic Festival, Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and 18 from 10 am to 4 pm.

There will be live music, dancing performances, Celtic clans, arts and crafts vendors and food and beer vendors

The Charlotte Museum of History

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

Living Love in Wartime: North Carolina Quaker Service during WW I, Thursday, March 8 at 6 to 8 pm.

Gwen Gosney Erickson, Friends Historical Collection Librarian and Archivist at Guilford College will speak about the experiences of Quaker conscientious objectors in North Carolina during the First World War. This lecture is part of the year-long series, "World War I: The Forgotten War." It is presented by the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room, The Charlotte Museum of History, and UNC Charlotte.

***The Sun Also Rises*: Charlotte Museum of History Book Club, Saturday, March 17 at 11 am to noon, Free.**

The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway begins in post-World War I Europe where a group of American expatriates and their friends, acquaintances, and lovers search for meaning and fulfillment from the nightclubs of Paris to the bullfights in Spain. In one of his best loved novels, Hemingway exposes the disillusionment and angst of the "Lost Generation" in the face of a changing world.

Civil War Leaders, Thursday, March 22 at 7:30 to 8:30 pm, Free.

Retired Superior Court Judge Richard Boner will speak on Civil War leaders before and after the conflict. Over the years, Hon. Richard Boner has collected documents signed by both Northern and Southern leaders and will have a portion of his collection on display for his presentation. This free lecture is sponsored by the Charlotte Metrolina Civil War RoundTable.

North Carolina's Experience During the First World War, April 12 at 6 to 8 pm.

Shep McKinley and Steve Sabol will discuss some of the discoveries found in their new edited collection of scholarly essays, *North Carolina's Experience during the First World War* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, Summer 2018). These 18 articles cover the war from the angles of military, politics, memory, homefront, race, labor, and economics.

This lecture is part of the year-long series, World War I: The Forgotten War. It is presented by the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room, The Charlotte Museum of History, and UNC Charlotte.

East of Eden: A Charlotte Museum of History Book Club, Saturday, April 14 at 11 am to noon, Free.

Set in the early years of the 20th century and WWI in the rich farmland of the Salinas Valley, within the pages of John Steinbeck's *East of Eden* we follow the intertwined stories of the Trask and Hamilton families and become intimately acquainted with the inability of these families, through successive generations, to resist temptation and destructive rivalry. A Nobel Prize winner, Steinbeck thought this novel to be his "magnum opus" for which all of his other writing was only practice.

The Fourth Annual Charlotte-Mecklenburg Civil War Symposium: The Civil War in North and South Carolina, Saturday, April 21 from 8:30 am to 3 pm.

Speakers include:

- Olivia Black, Beyond the First Shots: Fort Sumter's Role in the Defense of Charleston Harbor:1861-1865.
- Dr. Rodney Steward, The Rise and Fall of the Southern Rights Party: Revisiting Secession in North Carolina.
- Ken Lautzenheiser, The North Carolina Memories of Matilda Lamb Morton.
- Charen Bishop Fink, The Roles of Civil War Women in the Carolinas: 1861-1865.

Costs: \$10.00 plus \$10.00 for Lunch. Reservations required for Lunch.

Historic Brattonsville

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

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

Children's Day on the Farm, Saturday, March 24 from 10 am to 4 pm.

It's springtime on the farm and time to get a glimpse of farm life in the Carolina Piedmont during the 18th and 19th centuries. The hard work of plowing and planting continues while the children do their chores of candle-dipping and butter churning, play with the newborn lambs and go for pony rides. See demonstrations of ginning cotton, dying with indigo and open-hearth cooking. Also this year will be "Signora Bella, the Great Italian Equilibrist," an 18th century-style traveling performer.

The Schiele Museum

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

Spring Fling with Animal Babies, Saturday, March 24 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Get outside to enjoy the first of spring. Meet a variety of cute and cuddly barnyard animal babies. Explore days gone by in the Catawba Indian Village and costumed interpreters busy with spring chores and Eastertide activities at the 18th-Century Backcountry Farm. Go gemstone mining, make giant bubbles and delight in outdoor adventures. Educational fun and festivities for all ages.

Colonial sheep-shearing, Sunday, April 29 from 1 to 5 pm.

At sheep-shearing, neighbours
 none other thing crave
 But good cheer and welcome,
 like neighbours to have.
 Thomas Tusser

Early settlers welcomed opportunities to gather for work and celebration such as the annual sheep shearing. Bring the family to see historical interpreters in 18th-century attire shear the sheep and card and spin the freshly shorn wool into thread. Try the simple craft of weaving on a tape loom. Enjoy lively tunes from the 1700's and sweet aromas from the kitchen hearth.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

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

www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

Polk and the Mexican-American War, Saturday, March 10 at 10 to 11:30 am, Registration Required.

Coffee and Conversation – Café y Conversación : Polk y Guerra de Estados Unidos a Mexico – Polk and the Mexican-American War: What do you know about this war? How was it portrayed in school? Did you learn about it at all? How is the war viewed differently in Mexico? Give your input and have your voice heard. Attendees will tour the museum and then give feedback on our current exhibit and make suggestions for improvements. Hot coffee and refreshments will be served.

How the Other 90% Ate: The Roots and Reality of Southern "Poverty Food", Saturday, April 21 at 10 am to 2 pm, \$40.00, Only 10 slots Available.

During this hands-on workshop, Clarissa Clifton Lynch will tell the history of dishes like fried fish, neck bones, baked and fried chicken, cornbread, and more. These now-iconic Southern dishes may have been portrayed as the food of the poor, but in reality they were the staples on the dinner tables of the majority of Southerners. Attendees will assist in the preparation of some of these dishes on the open hearth.

Hugh Torrance House and Store

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

House Tours on first and third Sundays from 2 to 5 pm, Opening April 15 through October.

The Hugh Torrance House and Store is truly a Mecklenburg treasure. The log house section of the building was built as a residence about 1780. In 1805 the building was expanded to include a store which operated until 1825. As the Torrance family obtained land and wealth it became a cotton plantation of 3,000 acres worked by over a hundred slaves. Extensive family history kept through the generations allows us to interpret nearly a century of Mecklenburg's rich mercantile and plantation history.

The Torrance site would love to have few new docents. If you are interested contact Ann Williams at mhadandelion@mindspring.com and she will arrange for your training.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

War for Empire, Saturday April 14 from 9 am to 5 pm, Sunday, April 15 from 10 am to 3 pm.

During Fort Dobbs' largest event of the year, join the soldiers, settlers, and American Indians from the 18th century as we look at the French and Indian War history of North Carolina. Witness the on-going reconstruction of Fort Dobbs first hand.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park

Greensboro, NC. <http://www.nps.gov/guco/index.htm>

Reenactment of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, March 17 and 18

The Revolutionary War Battle of Guilford Courthouse was fought on March 15, 1781 between American forces under General Nathanael Greene and British forces under General Cornwallis. Although the British forces were in possession of the field at the end of the day, they were so destroyed in men and materiel that they retreated back to the coast at Wilmington. From there they went to Virginia and later surrendered at York Town, Virginia. Guilford Court House is generally considered to be the final turning point of the war.

This battle is reenacted each year on the weekend nearest March 15 and is the largest Revolutionary War reenactment in the South. This year it is on Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and 18 from 8:30 am to 5 pm each day at Country Park in Greensboro. Admission is free. The battle itself will be reenacted at 2 pm daily, giving spectators a glimpse of what took place on the battlefield back in 1781. During this two-day event, visitors can see military encampments and live firearms demonstrations. They can participate in various events, and purchase craft and trade items from that time period. For additional information visit these web sites.

<http://www.greensboro-nc.gov> <http://www.nps.gov/guco> <http://guilfordbattlegroundcompany.org>

Matthews Heritage Museum

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

Victorian Lawn Party, Saturday April 14 from noon to 4 pm, at the Reid House 134 W. John Street, Free.

In 1915 Matthews was just over 25 years old with no electricity or paved streets and horse and buggy were the preferred method of travel. Meet Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Neely Reid, enjoy their hospitality and learn about their life in Matthews. Visitors will tour the 1890 Reid House, participate in a cake walk and a maypole dance and see woodcarving, basket making and tatting. There will be games and crafts for children and a number of vintage cars will be on display.

Kings Mountain Historical Museum

100 East Mountain Street, Kings Mountain, NC (704) 739-1019
www.kingsmountainmuseum.org

Spring Egg Dying Workshop, Saturday, March 24 from 11 am to 3 pm, Free.

See how eggs are dyed naturally and scratch one for yourself. The perfect way to welcome Spring.

Community Digitization Day, Tuesday, April 24 from 2 to 6 pm, at Mauney Memorial Library.

See the work of the LSTA Grant team as they digitize photos and archives from the Museum. Participate by bringing a photo of your own to scan.

Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site

9621 Reed Mine Rd., Midland, NC 28163, 704 721 GOLD (4653)
<http://www.nchistoricsites.org/reed/reed.htm>

North Carolina Women Do Their Bit in WWI, Saturday, March 10 at 1 pm, Free.

As a part of the NC Humanities Council Road Scholars program, Dr. Angela Robbins will offer a presentation regarding North Carolina's women and their role during World War I.

Charlotte Folk Society

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte

www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Folk Society Gathering & Jams, Friday, March 9 featuring Harpeh Rising performing Chamberfolk, 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 Folk Society Gathering & Jams, Friday, April 13 features Si Kahn and Joe Jencks performing songs from "The Forgotten: Unknown Songs from the Pen of Si Kahn," 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

Duke Mansion

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte, 704 714 4400

<http://www.dukemansion.com>

One-Hundred Lost Architectural Treasures of Old Charlotte, Sunday, March 18 at 1 pm, Free, Reservations Required.

David Erdman has selected some favorite buildings from his book, *100 Lost Architectural Treasures of Old Charlotte*. He will give a brief narrative about each building: Its history, creative architectural elements, and ultimate demise as Charlotte's leaders and developers made way for ever-newer properties.

This event is part of the ongoing Rosalie Reynolds Explore History lecture series gifted to the community by Wells Fargo, hosted by Dr. Tom Hanchett, and presented in partnership between The Duke Mansion and The Levine Museum of the New South.

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, Saturday March 24 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Celebrate the birthday of the Seventh President of the United States at his boyhood homeplace. Join us for a day of living history demonstrations to see what the Carolina Backcountry was like in Jackson's time. See traditional crafters at work. Listen to historians discuss the legacy of Andrew Jackson. Enjoy the beauty of the park as history comes to life before your eyes.

Historic Rural Hill

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

Loch Norman Highland Games , Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22, All Day.

This Scottish Festival features heavy athletics, highland dancing, Scottish country dancing, pipe bands, an historic encampment, kilted races, battle axe and longbow, whiskey tasting and children's activities.

For details and to register go to www.lochnorman.com

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>

Backcountry Militia Spring Encampment, Saturday, April 14 from 9 am to 5 pm, Sunday, April 15 from 9 am to 3 pm.

The Backcountry Militia will demonstrate a variety of 18th century activities.

Kings Mountain State Park

I-85 Exit 8 in NC and follow the signs

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/kings-mountain>

Hunting and Trapping at the Farm, Saturday, March 3 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Kings Mountain Fur Traders are coming to the farm for a day of hunting and trapping. Join them and learn about hunting and trapping techniques of a 19th century yeoman farmer. Get really immersed and take part in a little trading yourself.

York County Library

138 E. Black Street, Rock Hill, SC. www.yclibrary.org

The York County Library offers Free Genealogy Programs in March and April.

For program schedules, information and registration go to www.events.yclibrary.org

Jefferson Davis' Flight Through York County, Wednesday, April 18 at 6 to 7:30 pm.

Trace Confederate President Jefferson Davis' escape from Richmond in 1865 through Charlotte, York County and beyond. Learn where he stayed, details of the last cabinet meetings, and clues to the location of that lost Confederate gold.

Identifying and Preserving Family Photographs, Wednesday, April 25 at 6 to 7:30 pm.

Learn how to identify and preserve your family photographs in storage boxes, on your computer, and on your phone. Learn the many different types of photographs, clues to identify relatives, preservation best practices, and storage suggestions from Winthrop archivist Gina Price White.

Mount Holly Historical Society

131 South Main, Mount Holly, NC <https://www.mounthollyhistoricalsociety.org>

Founder's Day Celebration, Tuesday, March 27 at 7 pm, Free.

See the newly remodeled Athletics Room exhibit highlighting Mount Holly High School sports teams, cheerleaders, band and majorettes and featuring many Mount Holly Sports Hall of Fame inductees.

Trail of History, Tuesday, April 24 at 7 pm, Free.

John Branscum, Producer for WTVI-PBS Charlotte, will be sharing with us his TV Series "Trail of History" and recent episodes featuring our local area.



Concord Public Library

27 Union St. North, Concord NC 28025, 704-920-2061 www.cabarruscounty.us

Researching Your Civil War Carolinian, Saturday, March 24 at 2 pm.

Genealogist Jordan Jones provides a step-by-step guide to researching your family history during the Civil War, highlighting a variety of sources and records that can provide clues to your ancestors' experiences. Though focused on the Carolinas, this program includes useful advice for anyone researching a Civil War ancestor, Confederate or Union. Jones is a past president of the National Genealogical Society and developed this lecture for last year's national conference in Raleigh.

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