

**Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents**

*Promoting Local History through Education and Research*  
<http://www.meckdec.org/>



March-April, 2016  
Volume 21, Number 2

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*Charlotte Regional History Consortium – Update*

In 1994 the Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents had a wonderful idea – to bring together history museums, historic houses, and research facilities from across the region to foster partnership and mutual support. This idea became the Charlotte Regional History Consortium, which has since grown into a partnership of nearly forty area history organizations. In 2011 we gained 501(c)3 status allowing us to assist area organizations with marketing and grant opportunities. Over the past several years, the CRHC has focused primarily on helping its member organizations get the word out about what they do for history in this region. The CRHC has produced several brochures and rack cards over the years, which are designed to direct people to its member organizations and show potential visitors how much history the Charlotte region has to offer. A new brochure is currently in the works and will be coming out soon. The brochure directs people to the CRHC website [www.charlotteregionalhistory.org](http://www.charlotteregionalhistory.org) for more information on member organizations. Through an interactive map, potential visitors can see where area history sites are located, get directions, and link to their websites.

This coming October the Southeastern Museum Council will hold its annual meeting in Charlotte. Within this council there is the Historic House Museums Affinity Group which offers their services and expertise to area historic houses each year during the annual meeting. Two of our member sites will benefit from this: Teams of volunteers will travel to Historic Rosedale to whitewash the English Basement Kitchen and to Historic Latta Plantation to assess collections and provide advice for updating its collections care program.

The Consortium meets five times each year, including two socials, to give members an opportunity to get to know each other better and create new partnerships. If you would like to join the CRHC send your site and contact information to [lattakristin@gmail.com](mailto:lattakristin@gmail.com) and we will send you information on meeting locations, which rotate to different member sites, dates and times. You are invited to join us on April 6th at 3 pm for our spring social at the Kings Mountain Historical Museum. We hope to see you there.

Kristin Toler President, CRHC

*From the Chairman*

I admit it; we ladies of the Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley have lusted after bear fat since 2003 when we had 22 cooks come to cook bear meat. Wanda Hubicki's husband got us some bear meat. We sautéed it with vegetables and stewed some. All and all, we deemed it delicious and tender, but older bears need a long slow braising in red wine or some other liquid. That same day another man showed up with a quart of rendered bear fat. Carolyn Dilda knew someone who sent this man to us. That quart of bear lard amazed us! It divided into 3 layers at room temperature. The top was oil; good for salad dressing. The middle layer was a slurry to sauté with, and the bottom layer was solid.

That first encounter was not enough. Since then we have all asked anyone and everyone for a gift of bear fat, but our requests went unanswered until now. In December we received 2 huge bags of thick slabs of pure white bear fat. My chiropractor knows a hunter of black bears and we got our fat! Soon we will render it and hope it will separate into three layers. We will make salad dressing with tarragon vinegar, and sauté pork medallions. With the solid layer we will make a dried fruit tart. We hear that bear lard pie crusts are superior.

Our original interest in bear meat and lard came from Lawson's History of North Carolina, 1714. "The bears here are very common....The Flesh of this Beast is very good and nourishing, and not inferior to the best Pork, in Taste. It stands betwixt Beef and Pork, and the young Cubs are a Dish for the greatest Epicure living. I prefer their flesh before any Beef.....their fat being as white as Snow and the sweetest of any Creatures in the World...We prefer it above all things to fry Fish and other things in."

Bear fat has been used for food since prehistoric times. Bears were the most accessible source of fat for Native Americans and European settlers until hogs and cattle became established. According to Records of the Moravians in North Carolina, liquid bear grease was as good as olive oil in salad. Bear fat was used in salves, to make soap and to waterproof leather, to lubricate wheels and bows and arrows and as fuel for lamps. Native Americans covered themselves with bear grease in the winter to keep warm. It was a very important and valuable commodity in the 18th and 19th centuries, and could be sold for \$1.00 a gallon.

Throughout our American history, people have 'lusted' after independence, freedom, land, education, gold, space adventure, and ... Bear Fat!

Audrey Mellichamp

### *Newsletter Deadline*

The deadline for the May through August Dandelion is April 12th. Don't forget that this issue includes all of your summer activities.

### *MHA Docent Programs*

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

#### **Traffic Pattern Changes at Sugar Creek Church.**

Light Rail construction has closed a portion of Sugar Creek Road between N. Tryon Street and Eastway Drive. To help traffic negotiate the closure, orange barrels have been put in the center south-bound lane of Sugar Creek between Tryon and the driveway to the church parking lot. The barrels make it awkward to enter or exit the parking lot from that driveway. The one-story small gray building on Sugar Creek Road just beyond the Fellowship Hall is the church Scout Hut. The Scout Hut driveway and parking lot are connected to the main church parking lot – this connection may not be readily visible from the street. Using the Scout Hut driveway makes it easier to enter and exit the Church parking lot. There is plenty of space between the Scout Hut driveway and the barrels to get in the travel lane that you prefer.

For those who live in south or southeast Charlotte, the easiest access to Sugar Creek Church is to take Eastway Drive all the way to N Tryon. Turn left on Tryon and follow it to Sugar Creek. Turn right, then left into the second driveway.

**Tuesday, March 1  
The Tryon Resolves**

On August 14, 1775, west of the Catawba, an enraged group of Tryon County citizens convened at the Tryon Courthouse, in response to the horrific Battles of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts that had taken place several months before. Vowing resistance to “barbarous and bloody actions” by the British Empire against its North American colonies, they formed an Association, and signed a set of resolutions which came to be known as The Tryon Resolves. Join us to learn more about this important regional document and its contribution to the atmosphere of unrest in the Carolina Backcountry on the eve of Revolution. The original manuscript is extant and now resides in the North Carolina Archives in Raleigh. Photographs of this historic decree will be on hand for your inspection.



Suzanne Simmons, a native of Cleveland County and graduate of UNC-Greensboro, joined the staff at the Schiele Museum of Natural History as Environmental Education Program Specialist in 1985. In addition to her experience with natural history, native plants, and the environment, she has been actively involved with the Schiele Museum’s Backcountry programs. In 2007, she donned the cap as 18th Century Backcountry Lifeways Program Specialist, and Pioneer Farm site manager. Now, Suzanne weaves her interests in 18th century life, Native American/Aboriginal folklore, storytelling, and working with children “of all ages” into a fabric of educational programs and activities which bring to life the triumphs and trials of settlement in the late 1700’s in the Piedmont Backcountry.

**Tuesday, April 5  
Book Discussion: *The Uncommon Bond of Julia and Rose***

*The Uncommon Bond of Julia and Rose* is a history based novel about an unusually close relationship between a slave named Rose and Julia who was her owner. It is told in their two voices by way of “memory journals” written in the spring and summer of 1860. The book consists of those interwoven journals recounting their fifty years of life together, written against a background of fears and rumors of impending war. Julia has no use for slavery and adores Rose. Rose returns her affection with reservations; she detests being property, but accepts that her life has been easier than most. We hope that by April many of you will have had an opportunity to read about Julia and Rose, so that this program will be much more of a book discussion than a book talk.

Ann Williams, author of *The Uncommon Bond of Julia and Rose*, has researched and written about antebellum plantation life for many years, and has been an interpreter at Mecklenburg’s historic plantation sites. She will lead the discussion by telling how the book came to be, and cite historic sources for some of its events. Then she will open the floor for discussion. We hope you will come with questions and comments; but there will be lots to talk about whether you’ve read the book or not. The complex and ever changing institution of slavery should supply plenty of meat to chew on.

*MHA North Branch Meeting*

**The Catawba Indian Nation in 18<sup>th</sup> Century Wars, Tuesday, March 8 at 7 pm, free.**

Robert Ryals will speak on the Catawba involvement in both the French and Indian War and in the American Revolution. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Cornelius, room 204 (enter by the cemetery – south side ramp).

## *MHA Dinner Meeting*

Monday, March 14, 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 Linda Dalton, at [leaseace@aol.com](mailto:leaseace@aol.com)

### **China and Charlotte — The Charlotte Trading Path Goes International**

Charlotte owes its existence to its location as the central, East Coast intersection of trade and commerce. From ancient animal migratory trail to Indian trading route to cross roads for all types of commerce, Charlotte has drawn its commercial attractiveness. From wagons, to rail to train to automobile to air travel, Charlotte's logistical position has allowed her to flourish. From telegraph, to telephone, to radio, to television, cable, and now Google fiber, the flow of data enhances that position. As Charlotte enters the 21st Century, the location takes on importance not just regionally and nationally, but now internationally. What is the China connection and how did it suddenly happen and why is it a milestone? Chase Saunders will talk about his recent participation in a Carolinas Chinese Chamber of Commerce trip to China, how the trip was received, the first ever visit of the China Ambassador to Charlotte, and what this all means. The events of the past 150 days are part of another exciting chapter in the history of Charlotte.

Chase Boone Saunders is a Charlotte native, member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and former President of MHA. He was the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, Chief District Court Judge and Assistant District Attorney before entering the practice of law. He is now moving into the field of real estate and economic development promotion. His passion is the development of Charlotte as a 21st Century global city of the future....the Charlotte city state. In October Chase paid his way on a trade promotion mission to China sponsored by the Carolinas Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Chinese People's Friendship Society. He was curious about China. He and the NC Leadership Delegation were given unprecedented access to places and people who could satisfy that curiosity. He was blown away by what has happened there and will share the visit and how unfolding events will impact Charlotte and the region. At this meeting you will learn and see things you did not imagine existed.

## *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](mailto:mhadandelion@mindspring.com) and we will check and let you know. Otherwise select a membership level from the list that follows.

**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**

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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.

*Docent Nametags*

The docent board will be ordering permanent plastic nametags for all dues paying docents who would like to have one. They will cost \$12 each. If you have lost your nametag and want a replacement, or if you have never had a nametag and want one, please place your order by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. You may pay \$12 to Valerie Jones at one of our meetings, or mail your check to her at: 4700 Coronado Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212. Make your check to MHA Docents. On the memo line write your name exactly as you want it to appear on the name tag. She will place the order immediately after the May meeting, and we should have them in hand by the June picnic.

*Site News***The Mummy Treasure of Al Faiyum, Exhibit Opening, March 14 at the Iredell Museum, Statesville.**

This exhibit features North Carolina's only Egyptian Mummy. This rare 22nd Dynasty mummy was acquired in 1956 by the Iredell Museums from the Crozier Museum in Upland, PA, where it had been on exhibition since the late 1800s. The style of the mummy's three coffin ensemble identify it as from Faiyum, Egypt in the Libyan Period (1070-712 BCE). According to Egyptologists at the British Museum, there are few examples of mummies from this time period.

In recent years the museum staff have conducted extensive research and uncovered a number of secrets regarding her mummification. Recent X-rays and CT Scans donated by Iredell Health System documented her condition and answered many questions about the mummy's health and possible age at the time of death.

**Reenactment of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Saturday and Sunday, March 12 and 13.**

The Revolutionary War Battle of Guilford Courthouse was fought on March 15, 1781 between the American forces under General Nathanael Greene, and British forces under General Cornwallis. Although the British forces were in possession 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. 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. Unfortunately, no information on this reenactment other than the dates shown above has been made available by the City of Greensboro, the National Park Service or the Guilford Battleground Company. When such information becomes available we will publish it in the weekly MHA email. The web sites of these three organizations are

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

**Historic Latta Plantation Summer Day Camps in June, July and August**

Each summer Latta Plantation offers a variety of fun outdoors camps which focus on history, agriculture, and primitive life. Farm Camps are available for children ages 4 to 17 and include age appropriate activities. Historical camps are offered to boys and girls alike, ages 8-12, including Miss. Jane's Academy, Civil War Soldier Camp, and Revolutionary War Soldier Camp. For a complete listing of summer camp offerings, check the Latta web page at [www.lattaplantation.org](http://www.lattaplantation.org) Camps fill quickly so be sure to register early.

**Polk Summer Camps.**

Registration is now open for Summer Camp at the President James K. Polk State Historic Site. Visit [www.jameskpolk.net](http://www.jameskpolk.net) for information—space is limited, reservations required.

**Kaye Brown Hirst, Long Time Executive Director of the Rowan Museum is Retiring.**

The Board of Directors of the Rowan Museum in Salisbury has announced the retirement of Kaye Brown Hirst, effective late spring and are soliciting applications for the position. The Museum encompasses three historic sites and other historic properties in the Rowan County area. Those interested in applying for the full time salaried position should have a background in event planning, collections management, security and safety and leading a non-profit organization plus a knowledge of Rowan County and Salisbury. To apply, mail a cover letter and current résumé to:

The Rowan Museum  
202 North Main Street  
Salisbury, NC 28144.

**Employment Opportunity at Historic Camden, SC.**

Long-time executive director of the Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site in Camden, South Carolina, Joanna Craig has retired and they are searching for a replacement. If you are qualified and interested, send a cover letter, current resume and three references to:

Historic Camden  
c/o Amy Sheheen, Interim Director  
PO Box 710  
Camden SC 29021

**Behind the Scenes at Hart Square, Saturday, April 16 at 10 am to 3 pm.**

Hart Square is the largest collection of original log buildings in the United States. Once each year, on the fourth Saturday in October, docents, artisans, craftsmen and thousands of eager visitors descend upon Hart Square to experience life as it once existed in the North Carolina backcountry.

On April 16 you can enjoy an intimate view of the property and its interpretation of early American life including a special lecture by Dr. Hart himself as well as an up-close view of the village's architecture, art and

antiques. Visit fifteen of Hart Square's meticulously restored 19th-century log structures, and browse the period-appropriate furnishings and other objects within them. Tours throughout the day will pay special attention to the buildings' architecture and craftsmanship and the history behind them. Photography is encouraged.

An outdoor barbeque lunch is included and the event will take place rain or shine, so do come prepared. The cost of this special event is \$60.00. To purchase tickets contact the Historical Assoc. of Catawba County at 828-465-0383, [cchamuseum@gmail.com](mailto:cchamuseum@gmail.com) or <http://catawbahistory.org/events/19/1491>

**NC's Southern Boundary: a Refresher Course, Saturday, March 5 at 9:30 am to noon, William P. Cumming Map Society, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, Uptown Branch, Dowd Learning Room.**

The History and Re-survey of North Carolina's Southern Boundary: Stephen R. Kelly, author of *The Boundary Hunters: Uncovering North Carolina's Lost Borders* (The Atlantic) and "How the Carolinas Fixed Their Blurred Lines" (New York Times), will discuss the historical background of the boundary between the two Carolinas, and the current status of the recent re-survey to determine its true location.

Prior to Mr. Kelly's presentation, Jay Lester, author of the North Carolina Map Blog, will give a brief introduction to the variety and frequently peculiar cartographic shapes of the Carolinas.

Shelia Bumgarner, librarian in the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room at the Charlotte Library will have a fascinating selection of 19th century regional maps available for viewing and study. Among these treasures are maps of local gold mines.

*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>

**Three Easter Egg Hunts, Saturday March 19 at 10 am, 11 am, and noon.**

Explore our enchanting gardens and wander through the ancient boxwood maze as you and your child hunt for Easter eggs. Children of all ages are welcome and don't forget your Easter Baskets. Reservations required and sell out fast.

**Archaeology Camp, Saturday, March 26 from 10 am to 1 pm.**

Be an archaeologist for a day. Join us at our dig site to find artifacts from the plantation.

**Frogmore Festival Fundraiser, Sunday, April 10 from 1 to 4 pm.**

Frogmore stew, shrimp creole, and barbecue with craft beer and live music. Activities and hot dogs for kiddies. Music by: Michael Federal and Rusty Barkley. Adults \$45.00, children \$5.00.

**Garden Tour, Saturday, April 30 from 11 am to 5 pm and Sunday, May 1 from noon to 4 pm.**

Stroll through multiple gardens around town at your own pace. Your final stop is Rosedale at 5 pm Sunday evening for a wine & cheese garden party. \$35 in Advance \$45 at the door.

*Latta Plantation*

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

**Celtic Festival, Saturday and Sunday, March 12 and 13 from 10 am to 4 pm.**

Celebrate all things Celtic in lieu of St. Patrick's Day with live music, dance performances, children's activities, historical demonstrations, arts & crafts vendors and food & beverage vendors,

**Celtic Music Night Fundraiser, Saturday, March 12 from 6 to 9 pm.**

Enjoy an evening of Celtic music under the stars. Food and beer vendors will be serving throughout the evening.

**Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 26 from 10 am to 2 pm.**

The annual Latta Easter Egg Hunt on the grounds of the historic plantation is a great favorite. Children will participate in an egg hunt and try to win candy and toy filled eggs while enjoying live children's music, crafts, children's activities, and the Latta Farm Animals. Reservations by pre-payment only, reservations open March 1st and fill quickly- please note that registration procedures are different from years past.

**Sheep to Shawl Saturday, April 23 from 10 am to 4 pm.**

See fiber working in all of its forms: a live sheep shearing demonstration, wool cleaning, carding, dyeing, spinning, and weaving. Join the artisans as they display and teach their craft.

**World War Two Re-enactment Saturday, April 30 and Sunday May 1 from 10 am to 4 pm each day.**

World War Two Battle Reenactment each day at 2 pm. Food vendors, live music and living history exhibits.

*Davidson Historical Society*

Post Office Box 144, Davidson, NC 28036

<http://www.davidsonhistoricalsociety.org>

***The Uncommon Bond of Julia and Rose, Sunday, March 6 at 4 pm, Davidson Town Hall, 216 South Main Street, free.***

Author and historian Ann Williams will discuss her new book, *The Uncommon Bond of Julia and Rose*. Set on a piedmont plantation during the first half of the 19th century, the book tells the story of an unusually close relationship between Julia and her slave Rose. Their observations and experiences reveal how complex slavery was, and how it differed from place to place and changed over time. Although the story is fiction, the historical background of the book is very real. Ann has drawn from her decades of research, reading and interpretation at antebellum historic sites.

Ann Williams has been active in local history for over 30 years, with particular interest in Mecklenburg's historic plantations: Latta, Hugh Torrance House and Store, Rural Hill, and Rosedale. She has done research at all of them, and tours at most. She is the author of *Your Affectionate Daughter, Isabella* which is drawn from the papers and experiences of the Torrance family of Cedar Grove, and co-editor of *A Life in Antebellum Charlotte: the Private Journal of Sarah F. Davidson, 1837*. Books will be available for purchase. This program is free and open to the public.

*The Charlotte Museum of History*

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

**Backcountry Explorers – The Environment, Thursday, March 3 from 2 to 3:30 pm or Saturday, March 5 from 10:30 am to noon.**

Students ages 6-12 will immerse themselves in Colonial history, discover Colonial life at the Hezekiah Alexander Home Site and create hands-on projects.

**Backcountry Explorers – Herbs and Medicine, Thursday, April 7 from 2 to 3:30 pm or Saturday, April 9 from 10:30 am to noon.**

Students ages 6-12 will immerse themselves in Colonial history, discover Colonial life at the Hezekiah Alexander Home Site and create hands-on projects.



**Civil War Symposium, Saturday, April 30 from 9 am to 3:30 pm.**

The Metrolina Civil War Roundtable and Charlotte Museum of History present their Annual Civil War Symposium. Please register before April 22.

- Keynote speaker Dr. Chris E. Fonvielle, Jr., - The Wilmington Campaign: Last Rays of Departing Hope
- Dr. Jim Sasser - The Civil War and Individual Valor
- Leonard R. (Deacon) Jones – African-Americans in the Civil War
- Chris Hartley –Who Was the Real D. H. Hill?
- Kay Peninger –The Morrison Sisters: Their Extraordinary Lives and Accomplishment

***President James K. Polk State Historic Site***

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

<http://www.jameskpolk.net>

**Traffic Pattern Changes at the President James K. Polk State Historic Site.**

Lancaster Highway (S. Polk St.) is closed near the President James K. Polk State Historic Site while repairs are being made to the Sugar Creek Bridge. Alternate directions are: On Highway 51 traveling toward Pineville just past Carolina Place Mall turn left on Carolina Place Parkway. Turn right where the Parkway comes to an end at Lancaster Highway. Pass the Waldhorn restaurant on the right, and turn right into the Polk historic site.

***First Ladies Sarah Polk, Margaret Taylor, and Abigail Fillmore Film Screening, Saturday, March 12 at 10 am, Free.***

Learn about the lives and legacies of three First Ladies: Sarah Polk, Margaret Taylor and Abigail Fillmore. This documentary is one in a series produced by C-SPAN entitled: “First Ladies: Influence and Image.”

***Matthews Heritage Museum***

232 North Trade St., Matthews, 704 708 4996, [www.matthewsheritagemuseum.org](http://www.matthewsheritagemuseum.org)

**Victorian Lawn Party (c. 1915), Saturday, April 9 from noon to 4 pm.**

Play early 20th century games, participate in a Cake Walk and watch demonstrations of china painting and lace making. Children will be able to make a variety of toys, a napkin ring, and stationery. And there will be tours of the 1890 Reid House at 134 W. John Street. On this same day Plantation Estates will provide a bus for the Matthews Historic Driving Tour. The tours will leave from the Reid House at 2 and 3 pm and there is a \$5 charge for the tour. To reserve your time and seat on the bus call 704-846-6693.

**Book Sale Being Planned.**

The Museum has received a donation of a large number of books on WW I and II, and other wars. They are being inventoried and priced now and will be listed on the Museum web site. When this listing is available there will be a notice in the MHA weekly email. All proceeds from the sale of these books will go to the Matthews Heritage Museum.

***Fort Dobbs State Historic Site***

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

**War for Empire, Saturday April 16 from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday, April 17 from, 10 am to 3 pm.**

Join the soldiers, settlers, and American Indians who inhabited North Carolina’s colonial frontier and learn about their lives and struggles through encampments, trades demonstrations and battle re-enactments.

### *Charlotte Folk Society*

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte

[www.folksociety.org](http://www.folksociety.org)

**Charlotte Folk Society Gathering Concert & Jams, Friday, March 11, "One Man Folk Show" Joe Craven.**  
Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. 7:30 pm; doors open 7 pm. Free; donations appreciated, accessible entry & elevator on ground floor [www.folksociety.org](http://www.folksociety.org) Features multi-instrumentalist and "one man folk show" Joe Craven.

**Charlotte Folk Society Gathering Concert & Jams, Friday, April 8, Female Trio Beeswing.**  
Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. 7:30 pm; doors open 7 pm. Free; donations appreciated, accessible entry & elevator on ground floor [www.folksociety.org](http://www.folksociety.org) Features Irish songs and tunes by female trio Beeswing.

### *Historic Brattonsville*

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

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

**Children's Day on the Farm, Saturday, March 26 from 10 am to 4 pm.**

Learn about farm life in the 18th and 19th centuries with candle-dipping, blacksmithing, and food preparation. See the newborn lambs and pet other farm animals. Pony and wagon rides available for an additional fee. Food concessions available, so come and spend the day with us exploring the past.

**Sheep Shearing, Saturday, April 9 from 10 am to 4 pm.**

It is time to shear the flock of Gulf Coast sheep. Observe a shearing demonstration and learn about carding, spinning, dyeing and weaving to turn raw wool into finished garments. And be sure to meet our spring lambs,

### *Kings Mountain Historical Museum*

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

[www.kingsmountainmuseum.org](http://www.kingsmountainmuseum.org)

**Kings Mountain Historical Museum's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, March 19 from 10 am to 4 pm.**

A full day of activities with a Battle of Kings Mountain theme: historical craft demonstrations, a firearms demonstration and a program on *Every Insult and Indignity: the Life, Genius and Legacy of Major Patrick Ferguson* by Ricky Roberts, performances by the Log Cabin String Band and a chance to make your own contribution to a time capsule.

**Washington's 1791 Southern Tour, Presentation and Book Signing, Thursday, April 7 at 5:30 pm, free.**

In the spring of 1791, President Washington spent nearly three and a half months traveling from Philadelphia to Georgia and back – the last of three trips in the first two years of his presidency through all 13 states. Author, historian, and broadcaster Warren L. Bingham will speak about this fascinating chapter in American History during which our nation's first President promoted the new constitution and brought the face of the new federal government to the people.

**The Mauney Brothers' Civil War, Presentation and Book Talk, Wednesday, April 13, at 5:30 pm, free.**

Kings Mountain Historical Museum is pleased to announce that the Civil War diary of William Andrew Mauney, which has recently been donated to the Museum by Mr. Frank Summers, has been digitized and published online through the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center. The diary and the museum's other DigitalNC.org content can be viewed at: <http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/kings-mountain-historical-museum> c

To celebrate the publication of this unique primary source material, historian and author Lawrence Lohr will present a program about his book, *The Mauney Brothers' Civil War*. The book chronicles the Civil War experiences of the Mauney brothers, Jacob, Andrew, and Peter. The war would claim the life of one of the brothers; the other two would go on to have a major role in the establishment of the City of Kings Mountain and the area's industries. The book includes photographs and transcriptions of original source materials, including the W.A. Mauney diary.

### *Matthews Historical Foundation*

Programs held at the Matthews Woman's Club, 208 South Trade Street

#### **The Evolution of Historic Rosedale, Tuesday March 29 at 7:15 pm.**

Deborah Hunter, Executive Director at Rosedale Historic Plantation, will speak on the Evolution of Rosedale, including the house, the gardens and the upcoming 2016 bicentennial celebration.

#### **The History of Charlotte Douglas International Airport, Tuesday, April 26 at 7:15 pm.**

Wally Coppinger, Executive Director of the Carolinas Aviation Museum, will speak on the history of the Charlotte Airport and the transformation of the museum from a hangar filled with aircraft to a more refined gallery of aviation artifacts.

### *Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site*

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

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

#### **More than a Woman, Special Tours, Saturdays in March at 1 pm**

These special tours examine the role of women in Cabarrus County and in Antebellum North Carolina, including Sarah Kaiser Reed, wife of John Reed. Admission charged for these special tours.

#### **Panning Season Opens, Friday, April 1 from 9 am to 4 pm.**

The first discovery of gold in the U.S. was at Reed Gold Mine. Come discover your fortune with the start of the panning season. Special prizes awarded throughout the day. Gold panning fee charged.

#### **120th Anniversary of the Shinn Nugget, Saturday, April 9 from 9 am to 5 pm.**

See how Jacob Shinn discovered the last large documented gold nugget at Reed Gold Mine in 1896. Admission charged.

### *Sons of the American Revolution*

Information contact: Jay Joyce at [jay@mecklenburgsar.org](mailto:jay@mecklenburgsar.org) or call 704-526-9548.

#### **Letters from Home, Thursday, May 12 at 6 pm, Hilton Charlotte Executive Park Hotel.**

"Letters from Home" is America's Bombshell Duo, featuring their 1940's-style patriotic music, comedy and dance. These dynamic entertainers travel the country honoring our nation's Veterans, active military heroes and their families by reviving patriotism through their 1940's-style music. Veterans are encouraged to wear their ribbons or part of a uniform to signify their service. Tickets are \$29 for adults and \$15 for children, including dinner, so buy your tickets now by sending your check, to the Mecklenburg Chapter SAR, c/o Tom Phlegar, 7324 Marlbrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212-4770.

***York County Genealogical & Historical Society***

P.O Box 3061 CRS, Rock Hill, SC 29732, <http://www.weblandinc.com/ycghs/member.html>

**Events Leading to the American Revolution, Sunday, March 20, at 3 pm, free.**

Scott Syfert is the author of *The First American Declaration of Independence?* which discusses the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence of May 20, 1775. He will give an overview of events in our area leading to the American Revolution. Unity Presbyterian Church, 303 Tom Hall Street, Fort Mill, SC.

***The Rowan Museum – Old Stone House***

Old Stone House Road off Highway 52 in Granite Quarry

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

**Colonial Spring Frolic at the Old Stone House, Saturday April 2 from 10 am to 4 pm.**

***The Rowan Museum***

202 N. Main Street, Salisbury

<http://www.rowanmuseum.org>

**Dolly Madison's Scarlet Dress, Tuesday, March 8 at 7 pm, Meeting of the Rowan History Club.**

**Annual Museum Yard Sale, Saturday, April 9 from 8 am to 1 pm and Sunday, April 10 from 1 to 4 pm.**

**The Cherokee Removal, Tuesday, April 12 at 7 pm, Meeting of the Rowan History Club.**

MHA Docents  
Jim and Ann Williams  
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Charlotte, NC 28211